



AGAWAM

Advertiser·News

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January 14, 1999

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Without Pay For July 23rd Incident...

Mayor Johnson Suspends Police Chief For 90 Days

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Asking for the forgiveness of the community, the Police Department, and his family and friends, Agawam Police Chief Robert D. Campbell accepted a three-month suspension without pay at a press conference on Tuesday afternoon at the Agawam Police Headquarters for his previous actions in directing two officers to void the arrest of a local businessman for allegedly driving under the influence of alcohol last July.

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson suspended Campbell effective Monday, January 11th, through Friday, April 9th, and ordered him to make statements to the Police Department and to the community acknowledging a lack of proper judgment and accepting full responsibility for his actions.

Under the terms of the suspension imposed by the Mayor as police commissioner, Campbell will lose slightly more than \$20,000 in pay and will be required to reimburse other police officers for any out-of-pocket expenses they may have incurred as a result of his actions.

Johnson said he considered firing the chief, but decided on the suspension after consultation

with the Attorney General's Office and after weighing Campbell's 25 years of Agawam Police Department service against one serious mistake.

Johnson said the chief's actions had caused a "deep wound" in the department and that the chief had engaged in conduct unbecoming his office. Further, Johnson charged Campbell with engaging in activities that set a poor example for the officers under his command and undermining the ability of the department to uphold its rules and regulations.

"It will be an uphill road for him to climb, but I believe he can return and effectively lead the department," Johnson said. "I'm sure the officers will be speaking out on the matter and I hope they'll give the same respect to the chief they would expect if they were wearing those shoes."

Lieutenant William Sliech will continue to serve as Acting Chief, a post he had held since Campbell went on personal leave in November after his wife suffered serious head injuries in a fall at home.

Sliech said he expected to carry on, as he has for the last two months, with the policies and pro-

cedures set by Campbell during his four years as police chief and continue with updating the department's computer system.

"We're keeping the ongoing daily activities on track and we're staying on top of everything," Sliech said. "Nothing is being put on the back burner while the chief is away."

"An Appropriate Resolution To The Matter..."

After a six-month investigation into the circumstances surrounding the arrest of Anthony Strycharz on July 23, 1998, Assistant Attorney General Judy Zeprun Kalman found the punishment imposed by the Mayor to be "an appropriate resolution of the matter" and stated that no further action would be taken against Campbell.

Johnson praised the AG's Office and State Police for their thorough investigation of the matter. "We wanted to be sure this was a single incident and not part of a string of incidents," Johnson said. "I'm satisfied that no stone was left unturned in the investigation."

SEE CAMPBELL - Page 2...

Boar's Head Festival Held In Feeding Hills...



ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6TH, members and friends of Valley Community Church celebrated the Epiphany during the church's Fourth Annual Boar's Head Festival. IN LEFT PHOTO: The festival's Morris dancers. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Corey Lagunowich, the bearer of the boar's head. (See article and additional photo in "Church News.") Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

CAMPBELL - from Page 1...

On Tuesday afternoon, Campbell told reporters he took full responsibility for his actions in causing someone who had been validly arrested on a serious charge to be held in protective custody rather than under arrest, resulting in no charges being brought and no prosecution for a serious offense.

Campbell said he further compounded the situation "by failing to clearly take full and total responsibility for the chain of events when the matter came to public light" and by making comments that appeared to shift the blame to arresting Officer Anthony Grasso and shift commander (Sergeant) Richard Light, Jr.

"My comments on the matter appeared to heap responsibility on two other officers," Campbell said. "Nothing could be further from the truth. Both officers acted according to my wishes, which they undoubtedly perceived as tantamount to orders when expressed by their chief."

Campbell apologized "publicly and humbly" to both officers saying he deeply regretted any hurt his actions caused them. "Both are superb police officers who personify the finest qualities that a community demands of its law enforcement personnel," Campbell said.

Campbell said he was waiving his right to appeal his suspension and that he had accepted responsibility for his actions soon after the incident occurred, but was prevented from making a public statement while the investigation was ongoing.

"I just want to put this to bed," Campbell said.

Johnson said it was theoretically possible for the District Attorney's Office to pursue drunk driving charges against Strycharz, but the town has no further jurisdiction in the case.

Chief Campbell's Public Statement

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify some of the events regarding the arrest of an Agawam citizen for driving under the influence of alcohol on July 23, 1998, and my subsequent intervention in the matter, which resulted in the undoing of the arrest.

When I was awakened at 2:30 a.m. by a phone call from a friend concerning the arrest, I neglected to wake up my better judgment. When I telephoned the police station to intervene to undo a lawful arrest, I used the events that occurred before the arrest and the full weight of my authority as Chief of Police to direct two other officers that they should void the arrest and place the person in protective custody, rather than hold him under arrest to await release by a bail commissioner. In doing so, I caused someone who was validly arrested on a serious charge not to be charged and prosecuted for operating under the influence of alcohol. I take full responsibility for these actions.

By making the telephone call to intervene in this matter and to instruct two other officers to undo the arrest, I placed two other officers in a very awkward position. I then compounded matters by failing to clearly take full and total responsibility for the chain of events when the matter came to public light. As reported in the press, my comments on the matter appeared to heap responsibility on two other officers. Nothing could be further from the truth. Both officers acted according to my wishes, which they undoubtedly perceived as tantamount to orders

when expressed by their Chief. I cannot turn back the clock to undo what has already been done. I cannot make disappear all of the stress and reprobation that they have suffered for these last few months. I can apologize publicly and humbly to them. I can also tell you that both are superb police officers who personify the finest qualities that a community demands of its law enforcement personnel. I deeply regret any hurt that they have endured as a result of my mistakes in this matter.

My erroneous judgment in this matter has cast a cloud over this fine police department and has caused turmoil among the rank and file officers. My actions have overshadowed all of the good work that this department has done in enforcing the driving-under-the-influence laws and have also threatened to undermine the strides we have made in our efforts to be a comprehensive community policing organization. I must accept the responsibility that should be mine alone as Chief of this police department. The time has now come for me to take that clear step to the front to face the music and to be held accountable for my actions.

I am sorry that, at a time that called for clear and logical thinking, I failed my community, my police department, my police officers, my family, my friends, and myself. I hope that you all can forgive me. I would only hope that when the court of public opinion judges me on this matter, it will consider some of the more positive things that I have done during my tenure as Chief of Police.

Agawam Fire Dept.'s Open Burning Guidelines...

The Department of Environmental Protection has designated January 15, 1999 through May 1, 1999 for open burning. Certain guidelines have been established and must be adhered to.

The Agawam Fire Department will issue and monitor each permit on a daily basis. Permits will only be issued weather permitting and only to those locations meeting guidelines.

1. Burning of brush, cane driftwood, and forestry debris will be allowed.

2. No grass, hay, leaves, stumps, paper products, trash of any kind will be allowed. CON-

STRUCTION MATERIALS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED AT ANY TIME.

3. Burning shall take place between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

4. NO COMMERCIAL OR INSTITUTIONAL BURNING PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED.

5. Burning shall be at a location greater than 75 feet from any dwelling or structure.

6. Outside burning for cooking purposes is allowed.

7. NEVER USE GASOLINE TO START THE FIRE.

8. Someone must attend the fire until completely extinguished. Have water supply handy at all times.

ANY FIRE WHICH IS DETERMINED TO BE A HEALTH HAZARD OR NUISANCE, WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE EXTINGUISHED IMMEDIATELY.

All permits will be issued from Fire Headquarters, 800 Main Street, Agawam. The phone number is 786-2662.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE "911" NUMBER TO CALL FOR PERMITS.

You turn our pages for all the hometown news!

"Home is where one starts from."

- T. S. Eliot

When you are starting out and looking to buy your first home, you need an attorney who can guide you through the maze of real estate law.

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Franzia 5 Ltr. Bag Box

Chablis, Blush, Rhine, White Grenache, Sangria, Chillable Red, Westfield Red, French Colombard, Cuvee Blanc	\$7.49
Franzia White Zinfandel, Chianti, Autumn Zinfandel, Burgundy	\$10.99
Franzia Fume Chardonnay, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon	\$14.99

Andre Champagnes (750 ml.)

White, Brut, Blush, Cold Duck, Spumante	\$2.99
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Fetzer Sundial Chardonnay

(750 ml.)	\$6.99
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Fetzer Valley Oaks Cabernet Sauvignon

(750 ml.)	\$6.99
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Sutter Home (1.5 Ltr.)

White Zinfandel, Sauvignon Blanc	\$6.99
Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Merlot	\$8.99

BEER SPECIALS

Molson

Golden, Ice, & Light

\$12.99

(24 Pk. Cans)



Bud

Reg., Light, & Ice

\$16.50

(30 Pk. Cans)

Coors

Extra Gold

\$11.49

(30 Pk. Cans)



Killian's
Irish Red

\$8.99

(12 Pk. Btls.)

Moosehead
From Canada

(12 Pk. Btls.)

\$7.99



Red Dog

(30 Pk. Cans)

\$10.99

LIQUOR SPECIALS

Captain Morgan

Spice Rum

(1.75 Ltr.)

\$18.49



Fleischman's

Whiskey

(1.75 Ltr.)

\$11.99

Kennedy's

Canadian Whiskey

(1.75 Ltr.)

\$10.99

Gordon's Gin

(1.75 Ltr.)

\$12.99

Scoresby Very Rare Scotch

(1.75 Ltr.)

\$15.99

Ron Roberto Rum

(1.75 Ltr.)

\$10.99

Tanqueray Sterling Vodka

(1.75 Ltr.)

\$20.99

Johnnie Walker Black

(750 ml.)

\$22.49

Cuervo Gold Tequila

(750 ml.)

\$11.99

Jack Daniels Cocktails

Lemonade, Down Home Punch,
Tenn. Tea, B.B. Jack, Watermelon
Spike, Hurricane Punch

\$3.75 (4 Pk.)

Seagrams Coolers

Kiwi Grape, Wild Strawberry,
Banana, Black Cherry,
Watermelon, Wild Berry, Fuzzy
Navel, Kiwi Strawberry, Margherita

\$2.99 (4 Pk.)



Baccardi Breezers

Key Lime, Tropical Fruit, Peach,
Blue Paradise, Watermelon,
Bahama Mama, Sea Breeze, Pina
Colada, Purple People Eater

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Letters To The Editor

Bachini Is The Type Of Coach That AHS Needs

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter because I am concerned over the apparent decision not to renew the contract of varsity golf Coach Paul Bachini.

My son has had the privilege of playing for Coach Bachini for the past three seasons. In my opinion, Coach Bachini is one of the best coaches I have seen at any level.

He is the type of coach that parents want to have work with their children. He is the type of coach that we desperately need to retain in Agawam.

Coach Bachini's record is stellar and, over the past six years, the varsity golf team has been the envy of Western Massachusetts. Any of his peers could attest to this. Yet, a win/loss record alone does not measure coaching excellence.

Coaching excellence is also measured by how a coach interacts with team members. It's also measured by respect for sportsmanship, honesty, and fair play.

After watching his teams for the past three seasons, Coach Bachini possesses these at-

Regular Agawam City Council Mtg. Agenda For Tues., Jan. 26th

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 1/4/99
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances
 - None
7. Report of Council Committees
 - None
8. Elections
 - None
9. Public Hearings
 - None
10. Old Business
 - (a)
 - 1. TOR-98-8-An Ordinance to Amend the Street Acceptance Portion of the Code of the Town of Agawam (Sponsored by St. Accep. Comm.)(3rd Reading).
 - 2. TO-98-60-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for Agawam Bowl, 359 Walnut St. Ext., Aga., MA (Tabled on 1/4/99)
 - 3. TO-98-61-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for Agawam Bowl, 363 Walnut St. Ext., Aga., MA (Tabled on 1/4/99).
 - 4. TO-98-62-Application for License for four (4) automatic amusement devices for The Sand Trap at Twin Silos, 1399 Suffield St., Aga., MA (Tabled on 1/4/99)
 - 5. TO-98-63-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for West Spfld. Fish & Game Club, 329 Garden St., FH, MA (Tabled on 1/4/99).
 - 6. TO-99-1-Total review of Council Rules and Regulations (Pres. Rheault).

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL
APPROVED ORDINANCE
TOR-98-5

Ordinance Amendment-Town Code-Chapter 114, Article II entitled Second Hand Motor Vehicles

Said Ordinance is of a length too cumbersome for publication. Accordingly, copy of said ordinance is available for reference at the office of the City Clerk, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL
Donald M. Rheault, President
Agawam City Council

Published: January 14, 1999

ADVERTISER NEWS

The Agawam Advertiser•News

tributes. He is a dedicated teacher of the game. He is open and honest with his players.

His integrity is beyond reproach. He leads by example and is a role model for his players. It's unfortunate that there are not more coaches like him.

As a parent, I am grateful that my son has been coached by Paul Bachini. I sincerely hope that the decision to not renew his contract is reconsidered, and that future student-athletes will have the benefit of his tutelage.

Sincerely,
William J. Biebel
Feeding Hills

Great Character of Coach Bachini! Please Don't Make It A Memory!

To The Editor:

It is time to reselect the Agawam High School golf coach for next season. Coach Bachini has provided the most positive atmosphere for Agawam's athletes to develop.

His positive influence has greatly improved the character, maturity, and scholastics of the young men he has coached. He is greatly respected as a coach and individual, "A True Gentleman of All Time."

Not all of the team were state stars, but Coach Bachini insured each one was a star in their own way. There is always encouraging praise from him for the boys. In fact, without Coach Bachini, many of the students would have never had the opportunity to be on the golf team.

We request that the Agawam Athletic Department put politics aside and take our youth's best

interest at heart by rehiring Coach Bachini.

Respectfully yours,
Bruce & Sande Linder
Feeding Hills

Agawam High Wrestlers Thank Area Businesses

To The Editor:

The wrestling team and Booster Club would like to thank the following businesses for their contributions which helped make the Agawam Wrestling Holiday Tournament a huge success:

Bruno's Pizza, C&S, E.B's, Hood's, Luigi's Pizza, Pizza Hut, and Valenti's.

A special thanks also goes out to the Knight family for the use of the popcorn machine and the materials that came with it.

Without the unselfish participation of this group and the volunteers involved, the goals of the Booster Club could not have been met.

A heartfelt thank you,
Agawam Wrestling Booster Club

Thank You, Coach Bachini, For Your Time & Dedication

To The Editor:

This is a letter of thanks to Coach Paul Bachini for his time and dedication to the youth of Agawam.

Our son's experience on the golf team has been a very positive one. We hope to see Coach Bachini back for this year and many more.

Tom & Gina Korney
Feeding Hills

Police Department Ready To Ticket Sidewalk Scofflaws This Winter

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

After receiving many complaints from all over town, the Police Department is getting ready to begin enforcing a town ordinance requiring property owners to keep their sidewalks clear of snow and ice.

Three years ago, Town Council put some teeth into the existing requirement for clearing snow and ice from sidewalks within 24 hours of a storm by upping the fine for noncompliance from \$2 to \$25.

Last year, a mild winter with little snowfall gave homeowners a reprieve from their sidewalk shoveling responsibilities. But, that's all about to change. And soon.

Police Sergeant (Safety Officer) Steven Draghetti said snow- and ice-covered sidewalks are creating a hazardous situation for children walking to school or to their bus stops (and for other pedestrians as well). With the return of wintry weather, enforcing the snow removal ordinance has become a priority for the police, especially where children are being forced to walk in busy streets on their way to school.

"Homeowners have 24 hours to remove snow and ice from the sidewalk in front of their homes,"

Draghetti said. "And the problem is worse now that some people didn't do as good as job as they should, and some sidewalks are frozen over with ice so thick it would take a blowtorch to melt it."

Draghetti said property owners can avoid being fined even if they are unable to clear the ice from their sidewalks by covering the hazardous area with sand.

"There is another portion of the town code that says people have 24 hours to cover the area with sand," Draghetti said.

Before homeowners are ticketed for failing to clear their sidewalks, the police will deliver a warning, including a copy of the ordinance, either in person or through the mail. If the sidewalks are not cleared within 24 hours, the police will issue a citation for a \$25 fine.

The fines are to be paid to the town, but homeowners can appeal their citation in the Housing Court in Springfield. The town and the Police Department have no part in the appeals process, Draghetti said.

Homeowners should also be aware that shoveling snow from their sidewalks and driveways into the street is not allowed, Draghetti said.

OUR OFFICE WILL BE OPEN on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Monday, January 18th). We appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!



The Agawam Advertiser•News

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FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

If There Is A Fire In Your Kitchen, Put A Lid On It...

The majority of accidental fires in the home start in the kitchen. Property damage could be drastically reduced if people only knew what to do when confronted with a kitchen fire.

The Agawam Fire Department suggests the following steps when confronted with a fire in the kitchen:

- If the fire is confined to a pan on top of the stove, slide the lid across the pan and leave it there. Do not attempt to move the pan outdoors because you may burn yourself or spread the fire.

- Never throw water or flour on a burning pan. Water will spread the flames and flour will actually explode!

- Do not turn on the exhaust fan over the stove. This would suck the fire inside the walls of your home. If the fire is in your oven, turn off the heat and leave the door closed to cut off the fire's air supply.

- Install a fire extinguisher in the kitchen. Make sure it is easily accessible in the event of a grease or oven fire. When purchasing a fire extinguisher for kitchen use, make sure the extinguisher is rated for Class ABC fires to insure its acceptability for use on kitchen fires.

- If the fire is inside the oven, close the oven door. This action should smother the fire.

- If the fire is too large to safely cover, or for your fire extinguisher, leave the house immediately and call the fire department from a neighbor's telephone. Trying to fight a fire yourself when it's too large can cause far more extensive damage and can result in serious, unnecessary injury.

- As a preventive action, keep your cooking appliances (including stovetops, burners, the oven, and broilers) clean. Built-up grease can flare up easily, causing dangerous and damaging fires. And keep combustible materials (paper towels, dish towels, paper bags, cookbooks, and food packaging) away from the stove or other heat source. Keep your kitchen fire-safe.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

At Planning Board Meeting...

Riverside Presents Portion Of 1999's Planned \$25 Million Expansion

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Planning Board members got their first look at a portion of the \$25 million expansion project underway at Riverside Park for the 1999 season as company officials presented a site plan for improvements at the Island Kingdom Waterpark and the plans for rerouting traffic in the parking lot on the east side of Main Street.

Board members voted 3-0 to approve the plan on the condition that a revised site plan and a landscaping plan be submitted for their January 21st meeting. The planners said the revised plan should show the pavement markings that will delineate the lanes at the exit and include a barrier between the parking lot and a pedestrian walkway.

Town Planner Deborah S. Dachos suggested the juxtaposition of a landscaped area along the perimeter of the waterpark (with the area set aside for a pedestrian walkway) to create a safety barrier between the walkway and the parking lot.

Premier Parks Regional Vice-President Bill Muirhead said the improvements at the waterpark would add the capacity for accommodating up to an additional 1,500 patrons per hour or 15,000 per day.

Plans for a 2½-acre expansion of the waterpark attractions include adding three water attractions and enlarging the lounge and deck area. The main elements are a resort-type pool with a lazy river aspect for patrons to relax and get wet, additional space for young children up to age six, and another water slide tower with four tubes for riders.

Traffic consultant Jeffrey S. Pechulis of Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., told planners that the waterpark expansion would eliminate 320 to 340 parking spaces rather than the original estimate of 370 parking spaces. While the entrance and exit to the parking lot next to the water-

park would remain one way going in and one way going out, the island in the middle of the exit may be reduced to make more room for the four lanes of exiting traffic, Pechulis said.

Riverside Will Request Special Use Permit...

Muirhead said the park will be requesting a special use permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals to park cars on a portion of the former Boglisch Nursery property adjacent to the park's existing parking lot on the west side of Main Street.

Previously, Riverside agreed to petition for the ZBA's permission to park 400 cars on the Boglisch land at the suggestion of Planning Board member Dennis Hopkins.

"We're hoping to have the extra parking spaces connected to our paved lot," Muirhead said.

Muirhead said the waterpark expansion is just one part of the company's plan to expand the park and solve the traffic problems on Main Street. In the fall, company officials announced the purchase of 70 acres on the west side of Main Street for future parking lot expansion as the key to solving the traffic problem on Main Street (while expanding and developing the park in the future).

The long-term master plan for developing the park is based on a simple concept; all the rides and amusements will be on the east side of Main Street and all the parking and support services will be on the west side. A pedestrian bridge spanning Main Street is under construction to transport patrons from the parking lot to the park.

In addition to several smaller parcels located behind a row of houses and small businesses on the west side of Main Street, Riverside has purchased the 55 acres formerly owned by Boglisch and Sons Nursery. That parcel connects with the existing 1,300-space parking lot and will be used in the company's long-term parking plan.

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Veterans' Corner...

by Ruth C. Bitzas

Veterans Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

Veterans' Health Fair To Be Held Locally...

During the past week, I have had several veterans in my office inquiring about VA medical benefits, specifically medications. All who recipients of Blue Care 65, which is a Medicare HMO plan from Blue Cross and Blue Shield for retirees.

While I don't have the details of changes, it appears that medications are going to be more costly for recipients!

They were pleased to receive a pamphlet that could be very beneficial to veterans. A VETERANS' HEALTH FAIR will be held at the American Legion Post 185, located at 478 Springfield Street in Agawam, between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. on February 9th. It is being sponsored by the Dept. of Veterans' Affairs Medical Center and Clinics, 421 North Main Street, Leeds, MA 01053-9764.

Those veterans who have not enrolled in the VA Health Care System will have the opportunity to do so at this event. Be sure to bring a copy of your discharge (DD214 or WAGO) — that's the part with a lot of information. Also, bring copies of monthly income sources and any health insurances you may have.

Once the enrollment is approved, you can utilize the VA Outpatient Clinic at 1550 Main Street, Springfield, which has a pharmacy on the premises for prescriptions written by that facility's physicians, as well as any other VA medical facility.

The following information and screenings will be provided: Health Services Monitoring; Pulmonary Screening; Weight Control; Women's Health Programs; Benefits of Exercise; Stress Management; Smoking Cessation; Persian Gulf Clinic; and Social Services.

All veterans who have served in active military duty are invited to attend.

The following is a list of Agawam Vietnam War veterans whose home of record is listed as Agawam on their discharges or in the War Records Room. This week, we are publishing those veterans whose last names begin with the letters "E" and "F."

If you have any questions, please contact our office at Agawam Town Hall, 786-0400, ext. 236/237.

VIETNAM VETERANS - "E" AND "F"

John R. Eagan, Carol A. Eckler, Peter T. Egan, Wesley L. Ellis, Harold C. Etterman, Ralph F. Esempio, Jr.

John A. Farnia, Vernon P. Farmer, Evans K. Farrell, Jr., Wayne B. Farrell, Douglas P. Favreau, Peter A. Feige, John R. Ferioli, Richard W. Fearn, John J. Ferranti, David M. Ferrarini, Thomas J. Ferrick, Jr.

Michael A. Field, Herbert L. Fields, Jr., William E. Figiel, Carolyn R. Fitzgerald, Bruce W. Fleming, William F. Fleming, Jr., William R. Foakes, James G. Foley, John J. Foley, Jr., Eleanor M. Fournier, Douglas A. Fountain, Martha A. Fox.

Raymond C. Francis, Philip J. Fravesi, David M. Fredette, Edwin E. Fredette, Robert C. Freeman, William E. Freeman, James R. Frenette, Richard A. Friss, Anthony J. Frogameni, Marc A. Fuller, Gary M. Fusick.

DPW Reminds Residents Of Winter Parking Regulations

The Agawam Department of Public Works wishes to advise residents of the ordinances regulating on-street winter parking between November 15th and April 15th.

The Department of Public Works has been empowered to declare on-street parking bans for the purpose of snow and ice removal and tow any vehicle parked on streets in violation of these bans. Any person whose vehicle is removed is responsible for the cost of towing and storage and is subject to an additional fine in the amount of \$25.

In order for the Department to efficiently and effectively clear snow, it is important that no vehicles be parked on the streets. Parked vehicles result in ridges of snow and ice that reduces the travelled width of the roadway and endangers the public. Costly replowing is required to clear the residue. Residents should be forewarned that the Department will remove vehicles violating any parking ban.

Residents are also advised that it is their responsibility to remove snow and control ice on the sidewalks in front of their homes and businesses. Sidewalks must be cleared of snow within 24 hours of the end of a storm.

The Department of Public Works is only empowered to plow sidewalks on major streets where children are required to walk to school.

— Agawam Obituaries —

Marian L. Haseltine

Marian L. Haseltine, 94, of Florahome, FL, died recently at her daughter's home in Daytona Beach.

She was born in Haverhill, MA, and had been a resident of Florahome for the past 26 years, coming from Agawam.

She was a homemaker and a member of the Eastern Star in Massachusetts.

She was predeceased by her husband, Costello C. Haseltine.

She leaves five sons, Ross of Southwick, Richard of Westfield, Robert and Raymond, both of St. Augustine, and Ralph of Pensacola; eight daughters, Marian Bradford of Southwick, Alice Greenmiller and Violet Presz, both of Feeding Hills, Loretta Turcotte of Springfield, MA, Shirley Freeman of Florahome, Eileen Anderson of Brandon, and Marjorie Lawson and Barbara Turner, both of Daytona Beach; 50 grandchildren; 78 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Masters Funeral Home of Palatka, with burial in Palatka Memorial Gardens.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the American Cancer Society, Putnam Unit, P.O. Box 946, Palatka, FL, 32177.

Daniel A. Paulo

Daniel Antonio Paulo, 36, of Feeding Hills, died recently at home.

He was the district manager for Starbuck's Coffee.

He was born in Ludlow and graduated from Ludlow High School.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills.

He leaves his wife, the former Barbara Desorcy; a daughter, Ashley Paulo, at home; a brother, Mario Paulo of California; and his parents, Antonio Paulo of Chicopee and Patricia (Contois) Paulo of Ludlow.

The funeral was held at the church, with burial scheduled for a later date. Messier Funeral Home of Holyoke was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ashley Paulo Scholarship Fund, care of People's Bank, 314 High Street, Holyoke, MA 01040.

Joan C. Barker

Joan C. (Russell) Barker, 57, of 43 Wrenwood Lane, Agawam, died recently in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Springfield, she lived in West Springfield and graduated from West Springfield High School.

She also lived in Agawam for many years.

She leaves her husband, Thomas L. Barker of Agawam; a son, Lawrence of Feeding Hills; three daughters, Nanci Barker, Andrea Harrison, and Kimberly Barker, all of Agawam; two brothers, James Russell of Springfield and John Russell of Greenfield; her mother, Beulah Russell of Agawam; and nine grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Laura M. St. Jean

Laura M. (Tootill) St. Jean, 78, of 1283 Suffield Street, Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She worked at the former Land Bank in Springfield and Agawam, retiring 20 years ago.

Born in Suffield, CT, she lived in West Springfield before moving to Agawam in 1954.

She leaves her husband of 60 years, Paul St. Jean; a son, Jeffrey P. of Huntington; a daughter, Diane M. Moreau of Westfield; four grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with burial in Woodlawn Cemetery in Suffield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 20 Speen Street, Framingham, MA 01761.

George A. Blake

George A. Blake, 69, of 29 Carmel Lane, Feeding Hills, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a truck driver for AAA Trucking of Enfield and retired in 1968. He also had worked for the former Capitol Motors of Springfield.

Born in Pittsfield, he lived in Springfield for 50 years before moving to Feeding Hills 20 years ago.

He was a Marine Corps veteran and a member of the Hope Congregational Church in Springfield.

He also belonged to Springfield Local 404 and Connecticut Local 671 of the Brotherhood of Teamsters.

He leaves his wife, the former Pauline Hill; two sons, Michael A. and Wayne S., both of Ludlow; a daughter, Kimberly A. Carle of Feeding Hills; two brothers, John of Westfield and Charles of Raleigh, North Carolina; four sisters, Nora Senical of Naples, Florida, Rose Bytow of Orlando, Florida, and Dorothy Board and Alice Moore, both of Springfield; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Sampson Funeral Home, with burial at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 2348 Post Road, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886-2242, or the Greater Springfield Kidney Association, P.O. Box 4426, Springfield, MA 01101.

Edward A. Grimes

Edward A. Grimes, 87, of Main Street, Agawam, died recently at home.

Born in Agawam, he was a lifelong resident.

He worked for Package Machinery Co. in East Longmeadow for many years and retired in 1977. He worked previously for the former Indian Motorcycle Co. of Springfield, Hamilton Standard Division of United Technologies Corp. in Windsor Locks, and at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield for many years.

He was an active member and vice president of the Senior Center and a long-time member of Golden Agers Club Chapter II.

His wife, the former Mary Evans, died in 1978. He leaves two daughters, Kathleen Longo and Nancy Corliss, both of Agawam; two sisters, Kathleen Arnold of Agawam and Gertrude Figiel of Feeding Hills; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, with burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Home and Community Health Services, 140 Hazard Avenue, Enfield, CT 06083.

Thomas J. Kenney

Thomas J. Kenney, 40, of 29 Sutton Place, Agawam, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

He was a pressman for Pandick Press in Boston.

Born in Boston, he lived in Quincy for many years and in Florida before moving to Agawam seven years ago.

He leaves his wife, the former Maryann Miller; a son, Andrew W. of Quincy; a daughter, Andrea K. Kenney, at home; a brother, William of Quincy; and two sisters, Carol Arroyo and Linda Kenney, both of Quincy.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home, with burial at the convenience of the family.



Baby Nikki... Our Little Angel

12/23/95 — 1/15/96

It has been three years since you were taken from us. Even though you were only with us for a short time, you touched all our hearts in such a way we will never forget you and your precious face. You will always be very special to us and in our hearts because we will never let go. Our little angel, Nikki.

Love,

*Mommy, Dan, Kristina,
Mima & Papa*

Taxpayer Help Expanded For 1999 Filing Season

Massachusetts taxpayers can count on more help from the Internal Revenue Service during this year's tax filing season.

For the first time, people with tax questions can reach the toll-free IRS help line 24 hours a day, seven days a week, starting this month. Calling 1-800-829-1040 will put them in touch with IRS customer service representatives. (Previously, the number operated 16 hours a day, six days a week.)

The expanded telephone service is one of several ways taxpayers can get help filling out their 1998 tax forms. Tax packages have already begun to arrive in mailboxes around the state.

Taxpayers should watch for several new details on the forms, including:

Tax credits. The 1998 forms include the premiere of the \$400 child tax credit and two higher education tax credits — the Hope credit and the lifetime learning credit.

Social Security number. The IRS has dropped Social Security numbers from the tax package name labels for privacy reasons. This year, people should still use the label, but they must be sure to write in their Social Security numbers on the tax returns to speed processing.

Tax payments. Taxpayers who owe taxes should make their checks payable to the United States Treasury, not the IRS. To speed processing, checks should no longer be stapled to the tax return.

This year's forms carry a familiar look from previous years, but they also reflect an array of changes from major tax law revisions in 1997 and 1998.

If taxpayers have trouble sorting through the changes or encounter any other problems, they have several places to find help.

Besides the 24-hour telephone number, taxpayers will have expanded opportunities to visit IRS offices during special Saturday help sessions between January 16th and April 10th.

Locally, the Springfield IRS Office (1550 Main Street, Federal Building Courthouse) will be open for walk-in service from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

More help is available without leaving home. The IRS website at www.irs.ustreas.gov carries copies of tax forms and tax tables along with answers to frequently asked questions and dozens of other major subject areas.

The IRS is also taking steps to improve taxpayer service by zeroing in on electronic filing services. More than 25 million taxpayers — one out of every five — used various electronic filing options last year, and more are expected to participate this year. In Massachusetts alone, over 534,700 taxpayers used an e-filing option in 1998.

E-filing lets taxpayers get refunds in half the time of paper returns, and it's even faster when taxpayers use the direct deposit option. And it's safe and virtually error-free.

There are several new electronic programs this year, including two new signature pilots that will make filing completely paper-free for some electronic filers. For the first time, some taxpayers filing electronically can pay their due balances using a credit card.

The changes for this year's filing season reflect the new IRS mission statement to "provide America's taxpayers top quality service by helping them understand and meet their tax responsibilities and by applying the tax law with integrity and fairness to all."

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 21, 1999 at 7:15 p.m. at the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of 10 registered voters for a proposed amendment to the Agawam Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 180, by adding a provision relative to delaying the demolition of historically significant buildings. A copy of the proposed zoning amendment can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office or the Agawam Town Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

BY ORDER OF:
Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman
Agawam Planning Board

Published: January 14, 1999

**PLEASE BE SURE
TO patronize your
local businesses...**

State Rep. Dan Keenan Files Bill To Curb Smoking Among Teenagers

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan will be paying close attention to legislation filed for the 1999 legislative session aimed to stop smoking among teens.

The legislation Keenan co-sponsored will make the use or possession of cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any other tobacco product unlawful for any person under the age of 18. Violations will result in civil penalties such as fines and/or mandatory enrollment in a tobacco cessation program.

"We all know smoking can kill," expressed Keenan, "yet teens continue to smoke. This initiative will simply help youth make the decision not to smoke."

Although it is illegal to sell tobacco products to persons under the age of 18 in Massachusetts, it

is currently legal for persons under the age of 18 to possess or use tobacco products. Despite the law, teens still obtain tobacco products and continue to smoke.

The current law is inconsistent with the government's regulation of alcohol, drugs, and other harmful substances and activities. For example, it is illegal for anyone under 21 years of age to buy, consume, and possess alcoholic beverages. It is also illegal for anyone to possess harmful drugs.

The American Lung Association reports that every day approximately 3,000 children start smoking for the first time. About one-third will have their lives cut short from tobacco use.

About 90 percent of all smokers begin before the age of 18. Statistics show that the earlier a smoker starts, the more likely he is to die from tobacco use.

Why should you feed your dog Dave's SPF Dog Food?

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Program on Humor Opens Series On Health

by Kathy Shepard
AAN Feature Writer

From 7:00-8:30 p.m. on January 6th, the sounds of chuckles, howls of laughter, and other strange sounds came from the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library.

Popular speaker Dr. Stephen Sobel kept the capacity crowd entertained with his lively and humorous program, "designed to reduce stress and send you home laughing."



DR. STEPHEN SOBEL

Sobel teaches stress-reduction techniques that stimulate the brain to produce endorphins, associated with healing and relaxation. Another good reason to pursue humor is that it takes 72 muscles to frown and only 16 muscles to smile.

Dr. Sobel believes that "he who laughs, lasts." He suggests giving yourself a huge smile in the mirror right before you leave the house every day and saying to yourself (or someone else), "There ain't nobody going to ruin my day."

There were several segments to the program, and a great deal of audience participation. Many of the exercises were reminiscent of elementary school games. These games seemed to create the right atmosphere, though - a relaxed and spontaneous one.

Self-deprecating humor regarding the condition of his own head was exemplified by the statement, "Everyone has hormones. I just use mine for more important things than growing hair!"

One of the funniest parts of the program consisted of words people had made up in an exercise. "Frust" was the little pile of dust that wouldn't go into the dust pan and must be followed across the entire floor. "Phonemia" (or something like that) meant when you dial a number and when they answer, they forget who you called.

Dr. Sobel has spoken for many organizations, including Milton Bradley, Better Homes and Gardens, and Mass. Mutual. He has taught part-time at Western New England College for the past 12 years and gave the commencement address in 1995. His articles on stress management have been enjoyed by readers of *The Agawam Advertiser News* and many other publications.

This program, which was free to the public, was the first in a year-long effort by the library to expand its health and medical collection and to bring information to the public about issues related to health. Federal funding administered through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners has made these programs possible.

If Dr. Sobel's program is an example of the quality to be expected, the Agawam Library series promises to be not only educational, but also enjoyable. The public will benefit by taking advantage of such a diversified collection.



THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF ITS MEMBERS, the Agawam Women's Club donated lap blankets and stuffed animals to Heritage Hall's residents. BACK ROW (from left to right): Club members Monique Coman and Elaine Smith with Barbara Huntoon, Heritage Hall's West Building Activities Director. FRONT ROW: Two of Heritage Hall's residents.

Agawam Women's Club Makes Donations To Heritage Hall

The Agawam Women's Club recently presented stuffed animals and handmade lap blankets to residents of Heritage Hall Nursing Home.

Monique Coman and Elaine Smith of the Agawam Women's Club, along with Barbara Huntoon (Heritage Hall's West Building Activities Director), surprised residents with the gifts, which were collected by the generous club members.

This collection was just one of several projects that the Agawam Women's Club conducted throughout the past year. The club members also collected items that were needed by the residents of the Holyoke Soldiers' Home, filled the shelves

of the Open Pantry, raised money for its high school scholarship fund, and conducted a spring social for residents of Country Estates Nursing Home.

Club members meet once a month at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam, at 7:30 p.m. (unless otherwise publicized). Guests are always welcome.

For further information, call 786-3091. The object of the Agawam Women's Club is mutual helpfulness, advancement of public welfare, and promotion of civic and cultural interests.

Agawam Historical Association Announces Meeting For Jan. 26th

The Agawam Historical Association will meet on January 26th in the newly renovated "Minerva Davis Room" at the Captain Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam.

Mr. John J. Hess, a graduate of Agawam High School, will present a program entitled, "The Birth of the Automobile Industry and Transportation in Our Area."

Few local residents realize that Springfield and its environs was the birthplace of the automobile industry and many transportation innovations which impacted our entire nation. Mr. Hess has a keen interest in local history and was the founding president of the Springfield Historical Society.

Presently, he is president of the Knox Automobile Club of America and retains membership in many automobile clubs. All who attend this meeting will enjoy and benefit from Mr. Hess's extensive research and collection of memorabilia.

A business meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mr. Hess's highly interesting and informative program at 7:30 p.m.

The Agawam Historical Association invites its members, friends, and those interested in the history of our wonderful community to attend this meeting - a must for automobile "buffs."

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While Supply Lasts
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(Hazel Nut Coffee)
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MARINE PFC NEIL ROBERT WHITE

Marine PFC Neil White Receiving Harrier Training

Private First Class Neil Robert White enlisted in the Marine Corps in March of 1998. On May 29th, he became a United States Marine after completion of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina.

After recruit training, White was awarded a 10-day leave before reporting to the school of infantry, Marine Corps Base Camp Geiger, North Carolina. Here, he trained in the field for 17 days of Marine combat training.

On June 29th, White reported to Marine Aircraft group 26, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), New River, North Carolina, where he received on-the-job training while awaiting aviation technician training.

On July 30th, White received orders to report to the commanding officer at Marine Aviation Training Support Group, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida. Here, he received training in aviation physics and gas turbine engines.

On October 19th, White reported to MCAS, Cherry Point, North Carolina, where he is currently stationed undergoing training specific to the A-V 8B Harrier's power plant. He will graduate aviation technician school on February 11th, and on February 12th, he will report to squadron 223, "The Great American Bulldogs," Cherry Point, North Carolina, where he will spend the remainder of his five-year tour.

White is a 1996 graduate of Agawam High School and a 1997 graduate of the Motorcycle Mechanics Institute of Orlando, Florida.

American Red Cross Provides Support To Firefighters & Victims

American Red Cross volunteers provided foods and liquids to between 20 and 25 firefighters who fought a blaze at a two-family home in Agawam earlier this week.

The fire occurred at 64 Cooley Street and left two families, a total of five people, without shelter for the night. They reportedly were able to stay with friends.

The fire destroyed the roof and attic of the structure.

The American Red Cross is providing comfort and support to the victims in addition to monitoring their immediate needs for clothing and food.

This is the second fire call that the Red Cross received this weekend. The first was in response to a fire at 41 Hall Street, Springfield, to which three volunteers assisted one family affected by the fire. The family registered for Red Cross services and then was able to reenter their home. The Red Cross will monitor the needs of the family and provide care as appropriate.

The American Red Cross is a humanitarian organization that helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. To help the victims of local disasters, you can make cash donations to American Red Cross, Pioneer Valley Chapter, 506 Cottage Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

Agawam Women's Club To Meet On January 25th

The January meeting of the Agawam Women's Club will be held on January 25th at the Leonard House at 7:30 p.m. An evening of fun and fellowship will be enjoyed as we try to win at BINGO.

The Invocation will be read by Mrs. Bruno Maule, and the evening's refreshments will be served by Mrs. Richard Chapman and her committee.

Members are asked to please remember to bring donations for the baskets (a Gourmet Basket, a Kitchen Basket, and a Bath Basket) that will be raffled at the club's Fashion Show in March.

We always welcome visitors and newcomers.

ADVERTISER NEWS



Cabin Fever?

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60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills

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Charlie Grasso

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Enjoy A Variety Of Dishes Selected By Our Chef For \$6.95.
Entrees Include Soup Or Salad, Vegetable, Rolls And Butter.

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We Are Pleased To Welcome
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Mon.—Thurs., 4:00 - 9:00
Fri. & Sat., 4:00 - 10:00

Reservations Suggested For Friday & Saturday Nights

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*For That Special Occasion You're Planning
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Accommodates From 50 To 200 People*

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Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, January 18th: Senior Center closed (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day).

Tuesday, January 19th: Pork cutlet with gravy, corn, cheese baked potato, rye bread, mixed fruit.

Wednesday, January 20th: Baked chicken breast, sweet potato, peas, whole wheat bread, pumpkin raisin bars.

Thursday, January 21st: Turkey a la king on a buttermilk biscuit, peas, onions and mushrooms, pineapple.

Friday, January 22nd: Seafood noodle casserole, tossed salad, breadsticks, pears.



MICHAEL LAMBERT AND TARA FANCHER

Tara Fancher Engaged To Wed Michael Lambert

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Lambert are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Michael Lambert, to Tara Fancher.

The wedding is set for June 19, 1999.

OUR OFFICE WILL BE OPEN on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Monday, January 18th). We appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

* * * * *

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone!!!

Please mail your ad with payment to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030, or stop by our office at 14 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

Agawam Historical Assoc. Nearing Goal For Fire Museum

The Agawam Historical Association has been conducting fundraising activities in order to renovate the old Elm Street Fire Station into the Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum.

Mr. Richard Bellico, President of the Agawam Historical Association, would like to announce that recent major contributions have virtually ensured the initial goal of \$30,000 will soon be reached. He said, "I would like to thank each individual, civic organization, and business in Agawam for their generous and deeply appreciated donations in aiding us to reach our goal. It is heartwarming to know that the preservation of the heritage of Agawam and Feeding Hills is of vital interest and concern to many."

Perhaps the more observant individuals have witnessed the removal of the old oil tank, the demolition of a shed and the pouring of a foundation for an addition at the rear of the present building. Yes, our dream of a museum in Agawam is becoming a reality.

The Americans with Disabilities Act, as well as our own desires, necessitated the inclusion of a chairlift. Regrettably, the cost of this chairlift, the major cost factor in the original goal, has exceeded our conservative estimates. With this in mind, we must once again appeal for your financial support. Those who would like to contribute any amount may do so by sending a check to the "Agawam Historical Association," P.O. Box 552, Agawam, MA 01001-0552.

We have received some donations of photographs and other materials of an historical nature to be housed in the future Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum. We need you to remind your friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to save and donate or loan items to our museum.

We need items of historical interest: photographs of places, buildings, and people of our town (hopefully, identified), copies of town reports, yearbooks, historical books and magazines, clothing, farm implements, household items, firefighting equipment, furniture, furnishings, bookcases, display cases, and the many other items of an historical nature.

Should you desire to contribute or loan any historical item to the Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum, please contact the association's archivists: Miss Anne Liptak at 786-3031 or Mrs. Ann Mary Bradford at 786-6835.

Activities & Events Sponsored By The Agawam Senior Ctr.

AGAWAM SENIOR PITCH

Pitch is played every Thursday at 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center. There are 32 participants, and attendance every week is not necessary (as this is not a tournament). Come and enjoy the afternoon.

Anyone wishing to learn this simple game can come in for instruction.

AGAWAM SENIOR CRIBBAGE

The New Year has started with a new Winter Cribbage Tournament. It began on January 8th and will run through March 26th.

The participants meet on Fridays at 1:00 p.m. at the Senior Center, and all are welcome. If you want to learn the game or just brush up on your skills, come in and there will be help for you.

The Fall Tournament that completed in December had the following winners: first, Dick Smus with 94 points; second, Nell Hopkins with 92 points; and third, Ed O'Brien with 85 points. Those with perfect attendance were Edna Duca, Edna Kryznowski, and Dick Smus.

It is not a necessity to be at every session, but it does help in the final tally.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST

* Ballroom Dancing, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. \$2.00 per each dancer. Music by Sydney Snyder.

* Super Bowl Party, 5:30 p.m. Price is \$5. The game will be shown on the movie screen, so join us for food, friends, and fun.

FREE VALENTINE FLOWER DEMO.

On Wednesday, February 3rd, Elaine Smith will give a free Valentine flower demonstration from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

TRIPS TO TAKE

* Wednesday, February 10th: ASGA to Mohegan, 8:00 a.m. \$16. Call Edie, 786-3164.

* Thursday, February, 25th: Bull Run Meal & Show. \$32. Call Joan, 789-3838.

* Wednesday, March 17th: Irish Show & Meal. \$49. Call Joan, 789-3838.

* April 18th-22nd: Branson, Missouri. \$875. Call Nellie, 786-9093.

Stop by the Senior Center for more information.

* * *

For all the local news, you turn our pages each and every week...

* * *



Parthenon Restaurant

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Receive \$5
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Beer And Wine Served

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Open Daily 11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Full Menu Available To Please Everyone's Taste!



For Take-Out
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786-7941

Storowton To Host Presentation On "Flight" From Slavery

Eastern States Exposition's Storowton Village Museum's historic Union Meeting House will be the site of a fascinating first-person presentation titled "Flight to Freedom: Ellen Craft's Escape from Slavery" on Friday, January 22nd at 7:30 p.m.

Storowton Village welcomes back historic interpreter Marcia Estabrook, of Dedham, Mass., who will portray Ellen Craft, a light-skinned Georgia slave who, disguised as a white male plantation owner, traveled north to freedom with her husband posing as her slave. The four-day trip from Georgia to Philadelphia was filled with danger, deception, risk, intrigue, and prayer as well as humor and surprise.

Estabrook, who once presented "Three Mill Girls" in the Village, is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design and a former teacher. She began research for her historical characters in 1981 and started performing full-time the following year with the "Characters Educational Theatre."

In addition to her "Characters Educational Theater" performances, she has also portrayed Clara Barton, appeared at the Big Apple Storytelling Festival, the John F. Kennedy Library, the Martin Van Buren Historical Site, the Deerfield Museum, and Old Sturbridge Village. Additional performances have been presented under the auspices of the National Organization for Women, Apple Computer in Washington, D.C., and the USS Constitution Museum.

Estabrook has also appeared in several television productions and designed a training program in historical role-playing for the U.S. Department of the Interior. She is also a performing member of the New Africa Company and the Massachusetts Historical Theater of Ideas.

Prepare to travel back in time as you witness this historical program. Admission is \$3 and reservations are requested. Tickets will also be available at the door. For more information, call the Village at 413-787-0136.

Upcoming Events Announced By The Spfld. Turnverein

On Friday evening, January 15th, the Combined Singing Sections of the Springfield Turnverein of Agawam, 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills will sponsor a dinner.

The menu will include chicken soup, bratwurst (sausage) in gourmet sauce, mashed potatoes, vegetable, coffee, and cake. Serving time will be from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Ticket price is \$7.50 and reservations may be made with Christa at 786-0143 or at the club at 786-0924. Deadline for reservations is January 11th.

The Cultural Committee of the club is sponsoring its monthly Cultural Program on Sunday, January 17th at 2:30 p.m.

A demonstration will be given by Kurt Strehl on how to prepare fresh salmon; smoked, pickled, and cured in the manner the Swedish call "Gravlax." There will be samples for you to try.

Refreshments will follow the presentation and all our friends are invited to join us for an enjoyable afternoon. There is no admission charge.

Springfield Italian Women's Club To Meet On January 18th

The January 18th meeting of the Springfield Italian Women's Club will be held at Wild Apples Cafe, 60 Shaker Rd., East Longmeadow.

All women of Italian heritage (either born Italian or married to an Italian) are invited.

Dinner will be served promptly at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 413-733-8751.

ADVERTISER NEWS

"Winterfest" Slated For January 23rd At Spfld. Turnverein

The Springfield Turnverein of Agawam, 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills, is sponsoring a Winterfest on Saturday, January 23rd, at the club. Dinner will be served from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Dinner will include chicken ritz, baked potato, vegetable medley, salad, and coffee with homebaked desserts by Maria. Tickets are \$10 for members and \$12 for guests. Reservations may be made by calling Christa at 786-0143 or the club at 786-0924. Deadline for reservations is January 18th.

Following dinner, music will be provided for your dancing and listening pleasure by the "Sounds of Music" duo featuring Richie Mtnick.

The Ladies' Glee Club and the Men's Singing Section are sponsoring this event and invite all their friends to join them for an enjoyable evening.

Tai Chi Classes Offered On Mondays At Spfld. Turnverein

Tai Chi classes are being offered at the Springfield Turnverein every Monday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese form of exercise which improves concentration, coordination, flexibility, and balance. Our instructor is the well-known Baiqing Li.

All age groups are invited to join us. For more information, please call Christa at 786-0143.

* * *

Our classified ads will bring you FAST, FAST results...

* * *

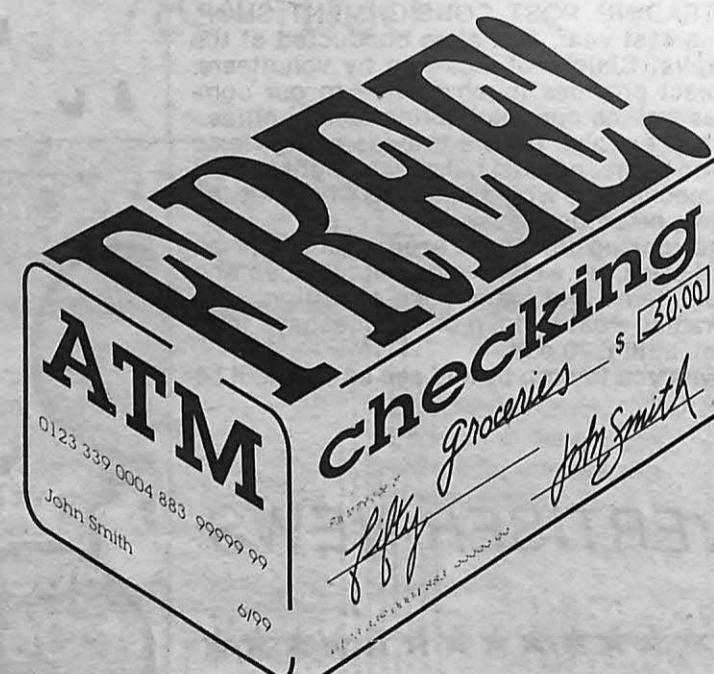
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Church News

New Course Offered At First Baptist

Beginning with the second Sunday in February, a new course of study will be offered at First Baptist Church. The course, entitled "Love Life For Every Married Couple," will be led by Pastor Richard Barnes.

It will be held following the coffee hour after morning worship each Sunday through the month of May. All married couples are invited to attend this group, which is geared not only to those with sound marriage relationships, but also to those looking to improve and strengthen their ties with one another.

It is hoped many will plan to take part in this opportunity to share in a meaningful study.

This Sunday at the 9:30 a.m. service of worship, Pastor Richard Barnes will speak on "They All May Be One." His scriptural text will be taken from 1 Peter 3:8-12.

Assisting him will be Hope Paradysz, who will lead the responsive reading. Following worship, coffee and conversation will be offered in Davis Hall; classes for all ages, including two adult classes, will be held until 11:45 a.m.

Child care is provided. You are cordially invited to attend any of our services.

The First Baptist Church, located on the corner of Main and Elm Streets, is an American Baptist Church, a member of The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts, and the American Baptist Churches/USA.

Coming up this week:
Monday, January 18th: 7:30 p.m., Word Search Bible Study.

Tuesday, January 19th: 6:30 p.m., Mr. & Mrs. Club Dinner & Program; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group.

Wednesday, January 20th: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open.

Thursday, January 21st: 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

The American Baptist Women's Ministries of Massachusetts will hold their fifth annual spiritual retreat on February 5th and 6th.

Registration deadline is January 22nd. Speak to Nancy Edwards for more information.

First Baptist's Trading Post Seeks Good, Used Clothes

THE TRADING POST CONSIGNMENT SHOP, now in its 41st year, is a shop conducted at the First Baptist Church of Agawam by volunteers. This project provides much service to our community as well as our neighboring communities.

The shop enables people to pass along items that are no longer needed but which might be just what someone else would like, and which, at the same time, helps our causes.

We are looking for good, used clothes for all ages and sizes, as well as small appliances and household items that are in good condition.

The Trading Post is open on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

We invite you to stop by and see us — you'll be glad you did!

ADVERTISER NEWS

★★★★★★★★★★★★

We're Back

Psychic Fair

Saturday, January 16th

Captain Leonard House
663 Main Street, Agawam Center

- Tarot • Astrology
- Psychometry • Past Life
- Spirit • Automatic Writing • And More

11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

★★★★★★★★★★★★



HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6TH, the Boar's Head Festival at Valley Community Church featured a variety of participants who were dressed in medieval costumes. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Fourth Annual Boar's Head Festival Held At Valley Community Church In Feeding Hills

Accompanied by the old English carols "Gloustershire Wassail" and "Nos Galan Winter," 35 family members and friends of Valley Community Church entered the candlelit sanctuary as part of the Feeding Hills church's Fourth Annual Boar's Head Festival.

Led by an instrumental ensemble and madrigal chorus, the medieval-costumed participants brought gifts of harvest food, baked goods, and "live" animals to celebrate the Epiphany on Wednesday evening, January 6th.

The spectacle, which features the recreation of the Nativity and the arrival of the Three Kings, has grown since its introduction to the community in 1996 and (judging from the increased attendance) has become an important part of this area's holiday celebration.

The children were particularly delighted with the various animals on hand and enjoyed the "petting zoo" of rabbits, guinea pigs, dogs, and a rooster that followed the service.

The climax of the evening was the entrance of the Three Wise Men as they and their attendants sang "We Three Kings" and presented their gifts before the infant Jesus.

The evening ended with the New Year Sprite "jingling" her way to greet Father Time, who "skipped" the old year out to the music of bells and a hushed congregation.

A committee and plans are already being formed for next year's festival, and members of the community who would like to be involved are encouraged to contact pageant directors Lyle Persons and Margie Secora at 786-2445.

Stop In And See Our New Home!

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Tuesday, January 26th
3:00 To 7:00 P.M.

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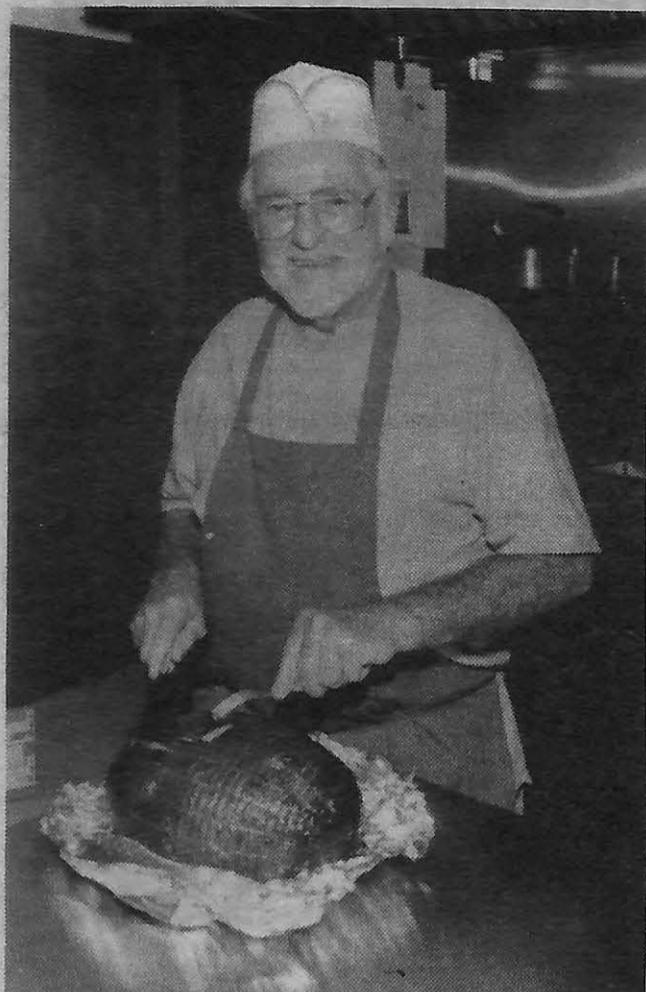
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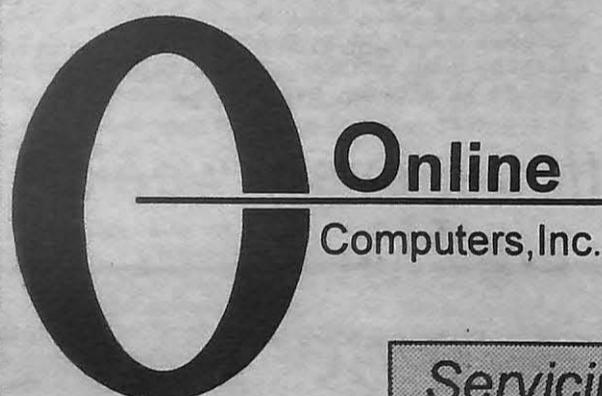
Church News - continued...

Ham And Bean Supper At St. David's Church...



LAST MONTH, St. David's Episcopal Church in Feeding Hills satisfied the appetites of its parishioners with a ham and bean supper. IN LEFT PHOTO: Ken Barrepski was "hamming" it up. IN CENTER PHOTO: Joann Angotti, Janet Kopyscinski, and Phil Omasta. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Michael Angotti, Mary Curran, Dan Curran, and Billy Curran. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

"Church News" is a weekly feature of The Agawam Advertiser News and is just one more reason why you turn our pages every week...



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January 20th 5:30-8:30pm -or- February 24th 5:30-8:30pm
February 3rd 5:30-8:30pm
January 28th 5:30-8:30pm

Please call for reservation

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- ♦ Showroom
- ♦ Consulting

Church News - continued...**Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational**

This Sunday, January 17th, is the Second Sunday after Epiphany. The Worship Service begins at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

A representative from The Gideons International will be our Guest Speaker. The Gideons are the "arm" of the church, placing bibles in hospitals, jails, hotels, and motels not normally ministered to by the local church.

They have been distributing the Word of God for over 70 years. Please join us at the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service to hear about their ministry.

This Sunday is also Youth Sunday. The Club 34 (third and fourth grade) Youth Group will lead and participate in the Worship Service.

The Heifer Project continues through February 14th, when monies collected will be dedicated. Adults who wish to participate in this project may pick up an "Ark" on the table in the Narthex.

To help increase donations, there will be a "Guess the Amount of Candy in the Jar," and raffle tickets for three wonderful prizes will be sold in Bryan Hall following Worship Service at the Coffee Hour.

The Heifer Project International is a worldwide organization that began following World War II to assist farmers to increase their livestock. Today, money collected is used to purchase cows, sheep, rabbits, chickens, bees, and other small farm animals for the United States and other countries.

If you would like to donate money to this project, please send it to the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001 (Attention Heifer Project).

The Catering Committee is sponsoring a Ziti & Meatball Supper on Saturday, January 23rd, at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12.

To reserve your seat, call the church office at 786-7111 or Ann Hamel at 786-2908.

Ziti And Meatball Dinner At Agawam Congregational

The Agawam Congregational Church will be holding a Ziti & Meatball Dinner on Saturday, January 23rd at 5:30 p.m. The dinner includes ziti and meatballs, salad, Italian bread, and dessert. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

The dinner will be held at the church located at 745 Main Street. Reservations are recommended, but a few walk-ins will be accepted.

Reservations can be made by calling Anne Hamel at 786-2908 before 12:00 noon on Friday, January 22nd.

This message is brought to you by:

The
NEW LIFE
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH

Suffield CT
(860) 668-4444
or
(413) 786-8735

RUNNING FROM GOD?

READ:
Psalm 139

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?
—Psalm 139:7

Francis Thompson wrote a gripping poem that he called "The Hound of Heaven." It reflected the torture of his life during the years he was running from God. At one time he had intended to be a priest but was deemed unqualified. Then he turned to his father's medical profession but failed again. Angry and bitter, Thompson gave up on God.

From 1885 to 1888 he lived the life of a derelict on the streets of London, suffering the agony of an opium habit. Finally some friends snatched him from the pit of death and brought him to the God he had dreaded. Thompson was gloriously converted.

His poem is his testimony. As the hound pursues the hare, ever drawing

nearer in the chase, so God pursues the fleeing soul.

No matter how far you've run from God, the "Hound of Heaven" is still chasing you. Just when you think you've eluded Him, you'll discover that He's still there. David, who wrote Psalm 139, knew he could not flee from God's presence.

We sense His presence everywhere. It may be through the patience of a spouse, or the warm embrace of a friend when we expected to be shunned. But God is there.

It's tiring to run from God. Perhaps you sense that He's pursuing you. If you do, it's time to stop running. —HWR

*Relentless quest, this race for happiness;
Vain footsteps echo 'gainst a hollow soul;
What peace to cease—exchange our chase for God's
Relentless love that never lets us go!* —Gustafson

**NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU'VE RUN FROM GOD,
HE'S ONLY A PRAYER AWAY.**

Upcoming Activities And Events At Feeding Hills Congregational Church

You are welcome to join with us at Feeding Hills Congregational Church which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Sunday worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m. The Lectionary readings for January 17th, the second Sunday after Epiphany, are Isaiah 49:1-7, Psalm 40:1-11, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, John 1:29-42. Rev. Donaldson's sermon is entitled "Living Up to Our Name." Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

You are reminded that the Mass. Conference Bi-Centennial Celebration will be held on Sunday, April 25, 1999 at the Worcester Centrum beginning at 3:00 p.m. Members from our church who will be attending will process together under a banner which represents our church. If you would like to help design or make the banner, please call the office at 786-5061 or speak to Rev. Donaldson on Sunday.

The next deadline for submissions to the church's monthly newsletter is Thursday, January 21st. Elaine will also be working on the annual reports (due January 24th) at that time, so it is important to get information in to the office as soon as possible.

Operation Friendship postponed the Roast Beef Supper originally planned to take place here on Saturday, January 9th. The supper will be held on Saturday, January 30th with servings from 5:00-6:30 p.m. These meals are fundraisers for

area youth who will travel to Europe to promote international friendship.

Please remember that audio tapes of Sunday worship are available. Please call Rev. Donaldson if you would like one.

On Wednesday, January 20th, Jon McKenna, Resident Director of The Gift and The Promise Campaign, will meet with church members at 7:00 p.m. to discuss this campaign. All church members are invited. Members of the Council, as well as Stewardship & Missions Board and Finance Committee are especially encouraged to attend.

There will be a quilting social here on Saturday, January 16th, beginning at 1:00 p.m. New quilters are always welcome.

On the calendar:

Saturday, Jan. 16th: 10:00 a.m. Operation Friendship; 1:00 p.m., Quilting Social

Sunday, Jan. 17th: 10:00 a.m., Worship/Sunday School; 2:00 p.m., Cub Scout Pack meeting

Monday, Jan. 18th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Trustees

Tuesday, Jan. 19th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Deacons

Wednesday, Jan. 20th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., All church meeting with Jon McKenna

Thursday, Jan. 21st: Newsletter deadline; 7:00 p.m., AA

Parish News And Notes From St. John's Church In Agawam**AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES CLUB**

February 6th: Falcons game. Call Joanne, 786-1583.

Anyone interested in joining should call Frank, 789-2764, or Kay, 786-8442.

BIBLE STUDY

Each Wednesday morning. Interested? Call Annette at 786-4977.

Each Friday morning, a video presentation of Sunday's Scriptures in Parish Center after Mass.

MEN'S RETREAT

The men of the parish are invited to come on a stress-free weekend. No phones, no hassle, no distractions — do what you choose.

February 12th at 6:00 p.m. through February 14th at 12:00 noon at the Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford.

For details, call Ray Provost at 786-6483.

SUPPORT GROUP

Our support group for separated, divorced, and widowed individuals will next meet on January 14th from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the foyer of the Parish Center.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-4: Saturday morning, 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Grades 5-7: Tuesday evening, 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.
Grades 8-10: Monday evening, 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.
Grade 11: Monday evening, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

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Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
 Pastor of the New Life
 Christian Church,
 Suffield, CT
 (860) 668-4444 or
 (413) 786-8735

The Faithfulness Of God

"I will sing of Your steadfast love, o Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that Your steadfast love is established forever; Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens." It is not unusual to hear one speak of the love of God, but it is not ordinary to hear one refer to God's faithfulness. Usually, when one thinks about the topic of faith, one thinks about people's faithfulness or the lack thereof. We would do well, however, to consider the faithfulness of the Lord and what it can mean to each of us in our daily lives.

The Bible repeatedly speaks to us about God's faithfulness. It is something we can count on, without reservation. The Epistle of James describes God as "the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." In the courts juries are instructed to be sure of their verdict beyond a reasonable doubt; but with God we go much further: not even the slightest doubt!

God does not change with circumstances. Regardless of what people do, God never stops loving any of us. The Bible asks, "Will their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God?" It then answers, "By no means!" Psalm 139 asks, "Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?" The answer is, nowhere. There is no place where God isn't. The words "always" and "never" should not be applied to people, because we're never always anything. The only one "always" and "never" can properly describe is God. He is always faithful, and He never stops loving us.

God always keeps His promises. Virtually every book of the Old Testament contains at least one promise of, or reference to, the coming of the Messiah, who would be the Redeemer of the world. Admittedly, for a period of time it might have seemed that God would fail to keep His promise. But God had never broken any of His promises, and He still hasn't. Jesus Christ is the best promise that God ever kept! When He appeared before John the Baptist at the Jordan River, an astonished John said, "I need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?" Jesus said that all of the requirements of the Law of God would be fulfilled, and so He answered Him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness."

The faithfulness of God is extended to us further in and through the Person of Jesus Christ. Our righteousness with God comes through the faith of Jesus Christ (Rom. 3:22). We are justified before God through the faith of Jesus Christ (Gal. 2:16a). The promises of God are released to us through the faith of Jesus Christ (Gal. 3:22). We have access to God and can approach God boldly and with confidence through the faith of Jesus Christ (Eph. 3:12). We can draw ever nearer to God and gain a heavenly sense of identity through the faith of Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:9). We even get the power to believe in Jesus in the first place, from the faith of Jesus Christ. (Gal. 2:16b). As we can see, there are many benefits which God wishes to extend to us, through the faith of Jesus Christ.

There is absolutely, positively, not any person who is ineligible to have the faith of Jesus Christ in their lives. When the Church was first established, the leaders thought it was strictly a Jewish thing. But God said His grace would not be limited in any way. He made that more than clear to the Apostle Peter, who said, "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears Him and does what is right is acceptable to Him."

* * *

**Reverend Peter
 Monahan's column,
 "Reflections...,"
 is a regular feature
 of The Agawam
 Advertiser News.**

* * *

"Heifer Project" Is Now Underway At Agawam Congregational Church

The Heifer Project International is a worldwide organization that began following World War II to assist farmers to increase their livestock. Today, money collected is used to purchase cows, sheep, rabbits, chickens, bees, and other small animals for the farmers in the United States and other countries.

A \$10 gift can purchase a starter flock of chickens; \$60 can purchase a breeding trio of rabbits; \$120 can purchase a goat, sheep, or pig; and \$500 can purchase a bred heifer capable of producing three gallons of milk each day, and a new calf every year. And your gift multiplies as each recipient "passes on" the first-born female animal to new families.

Beginning this Sunday, January 10th, each Church School-age child at Agawam Congregational Church will receive an "Ark" to feed with money that they collect. Also, the "Arks" will be available to any adult who wishes to participate in the project.

If you would like to donate money to this worthwhile project, please make your check payable to "Heifer Project," c/o the Agawam Congregational Church, and send it to: 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001 (Attention Heifer Project).

The project will run through February 14th, when all money collected will be dedicated during the Worship Service.

For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check our classified ads in each edition...

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Fresh Ground Round	\$2.49 Lb.
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	\$1.69 Lb.
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.79 Lb.
Grade "A" Skinless & Boneless Chicken Breast	\$2.69 Lb.
Zonin Italian Sausage (Hot Or Sweet)	\$1.99 Lb.
Whole Boneless Top Sirloins (Cut Into Spoon Roast Or Steaks)	\$1.79 Lb.

SEAFOOD

Scrod Fillet	\$4.99 Lb.
Frozen Salad Style Crab Meat (11.3 Oz. Can)	\$4.99

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Bananas	39¢ Lb.
Red Seedless Grapes	\$1.49 Lb.

Everyday Low Price...

**Lays
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 With Coupon Only**

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 (All Varieties)
 \$3.75**

**With Free 12 Oz.
 Can Of Soda**

Church News - continued...

Chicken Dinner Held At Valley Community Church



JAIME PEARSONS AND KENDALL HILL sold various Christmas ornaments at Valley Community Church's chicken dinner. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS, Valley Community Church hosted one of its community-famous chicken dinners. From left to right: "Yuletide kitchen helpers" Tyler Pearson, Rev. Dr. Robert Loesch, Betty Kopy, and Melody Hill. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



"WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE FOR DESSERT???" Evelyn Vinclette, Lois Granger, and Sue Pearson manned the dessert table during the December chicken dinner at Valley Community Church. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

* * * * *

OUR OFFICE WILL BE OPEN on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Monday, January 18th). We appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

* * * * *

ATTEND AN IMPORTANT HOME BUYER'S WORKSHOP

Saturday, January 16th, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
at the West Springfield Professional Center
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"BUYING A HOME... WHAT THE BANKS DON'T TELL YOU!"

Learn how to save thousands of dollars ... guaranteed!

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Spotlight On Business



FRANK A. FORASTIERE (right) is congratulated by **Anthony R. Cota, Sr.**, president of the Massachusetts Funeral Directors Association (MFDA).

Frank Forastiere Is Elected Vice-President Of Mass. Funeral Directors Association

Frank A. Forastiere of the Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, located at 985 Main Street in Agawam, was recently elected vice-president of the Massachusetts Funeral Directors Association.

He is a 1968 graduate of American International College, and in 1969 completed his studies Summa Cum Laude from the New England School of Anatomy Sanitary Science (majoring in embalming and funeral directing).

Active in many civic, social, and religious organizations, Forastiere currently is a member of the South End Merchants Association, the Knights of Columbus, the Lodge of Elks (number 61), and the UNICO National Service Club. In addition, he serves on the Mount Carmel School Board and is a charter member of the Italian Cultural Center.

Forastiere has been a member of the Massachusetts State Board of Funeral Directing

and Embalming, as well as a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the MFDA. His new position as vice-president is the result of 30 years of dedicated service to the families of the Town of Agawam and the surrounding area.

In 1980, he and his brother, Peter Forastiere (who lives in Agawam), expanded to Agawam by the building the Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home.

The Massachusetts Funeral Directors Association represents over 500 funeral homes in the state and is the largest organization of funeral service practitioners in the Commonwealth. MFDA is a federated state affiliate of the National Funeral Directors Association based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Forastiere resides in Longmeadow with his wife, Lila, and they have four daughters and three grandchildren.

- Wear a mask to avoid inhaling insulation fibers and dust. If you have a respiratory problem, check with your doctor first.

- Don't rub your eyes when working with insulation.

- After the project, wash clothes separately from other clothes and rinse out the washer after washing.

- If insulation fibers, rock or slag wool get on your skin, don't rub off the fibers. Instead, take a shower using warm water and soap.

- Keep insulation at least three inches away from the sides of recessed lighting fixtures, motors or any heat-producing equipment (chimneys or flues).

- Never smoke or light a match to see your way in a dark attic or crawlspace. Ashes can smolder and start a fire.

- Use walk boards when working in the attic to avoid falling through the floor.

For more home-and-family information, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.

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Insulating Safely...

Insulating your home can increase your comfort and provide energy savings, too. Many homeowners tackle insulating as a do-it-yourself project.

If you're considering such a project, here are a few tips to help you insulate safely:

- Since fibers and cellulose are irritating to the skin, wear a loose-fitting, long-sleeve shirt, gloves and long pants.

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Travel Talk...

by Lori Keeley, CTC
Travel Connections, LTD
10 Chestnut Street
West Springfield, MA 01089
(413) 732-1313

Travel Scams - Watch Out!

It is estimated that each year travel fraud costs consumers over \$12 billion. Most travel scams are carried out either over the phone or by mail; now Internet scams are here. Those who book through legitimate travel agencies with whom they have a relationship are safe. Listed below are some scams to watch out for and deals that sound too good to be true.

The E-Mail or Online Discount Offer:

The deal sounds too good to be true. You are lured in by ridiculously low air fares. You are offered two tickets for the price of one, but then the price of the ticket must be booked in a class that may actually be higher than a ticket at a lower published fare. They will ask for your credit card number, explaining that the deal will expire and by the time you check out all the conditions, the website has been changed, leaving you no proof as to what the offer was when you first saw it.

The Postcard That Announces You've Won A Prize:

This is the card you get in the mail that says you have been specially selected to receive a free trip. Many times the details have been omitted, the hotel names are not listed and you must call an expensive 900 number for this limited time offer. When you do call, the airfares usually must be purchased, or you may be required to join a special travel club for an additional fee. Other times you must give your credit card before the details can be sent out. Then when they do arrive, there is another fee for actually requesting the space and your reservation can't be confirmed due to space limitations.

The Travel Club Membership:

You will see these offers everywhere online, on the phone, and in your mail. For a fee of \$49 to thousands of dollars, you can join the travel club to get in on great travel bargains. But when you use your membership, the deal isn't as good as you thought it would be. Many times you discover you could have booked the deal on your own without paying the travel club fee.

What can you do to avoid these scams?

Find a travel agent with whom you can build a relationship with and trust. Many local agencies will work hard to find the best deal for you. If you do run into any problems, at least you have a face to talk with, not some fly-by-night 800 number.

Our "Spotlight On Business" is just one more reason why you turn our pages each and every week...

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Spotlight On Business - continued...



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The Power Of Compounding...

The table below shows you how a single investment of \$100 will grow at various rates of return. Five percent is what you might get from a Certificate of Deposit (CD) or with a government bond, 10 percent is about the historical average stock market return, and 20 percent or more is what you might get if you use one of the investing strategies described later in Investing Basics.

Year	5%	10%	15%	20%
1	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
5	\$128	\$161	\$201	\$249
10	\$163	\$259	\$405	\$619
15	\$208	\$418	\$814	\$1,541
25	\$339	\$1,083	\$3,292	\$9,540

Why is the difference between a few percentage points of return so massive after long periods of time? This is the miracle of compounding. When your interest (or return) begins to earn interest, small amounts of money can mushroom very quickly into significant amounts of money.

Extend the time period or raise the rate of return and your results increase geometrically. For instance, if you start young, say at 15 years of age, note how quickly a single \$100 investment grows, especially in the later years.

GETTING READY TO INVEST

After seeing all those impressive numbers above, you're probably itching to take the next step. You want to drop everything and start investing right now. Slow down here.

Would you start running a marathon without first stretching? Having dazzled you with the power of one dollar, now I want to help you make each one count. Before you can invest, you have to prepare yourself by removing your negative investments, better known as high-interest debt.

You see how fast a dollar can turn into a couple hundred dollars when invested at a high rate of return. A dollar of debt can turn just as quickly into a few hundred dollars of debt if you are paying that same amount of interest. Does it make sense to try to save money at the same time your debt is multiplying like cockroaches?

The first thing you should do to prepare for investing is to pay down all of your high-interest debt. Although some specific kinds of debt may be at low interest rates or might be tax advantaged (such as your mortgage), as a general rule, being debt-free when you begin to invest is the best policy.

Every dollar you can put toward investing instead of something else is a dollar that can create value for you. Avoid paying high fees when you invest. Some will try to sell you insurance products dressed as investments, like whole life insurance or annuities, incentivized by the fat commissions rather than an honest concern about your future.

Always ask for detailed information about how much things cost.

Molta Associates Are On Greater Spfld. Realtors Committees

Several members of COLDWELL BANKER KEENAN & MOLTA ASSOCIATES have been appointed to various Greater Springfield Association of Realtors' committees for 1999.

ROBERT P. MOLTA, President and co-owner, was appointed to the Finance Committee and was previously a Director for the Massachusetts Association of Realtors.

As a sales associate in the Westfield office, W. LYNN BOSS, GRI, ABR, has been designated as the Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee and is also a member of the Buyer Broker Task Force.

VINCENT WALSH, a sales associate in the Springfield office, was appointed to both the Scholarship and Government Affairs Committee.

DEBRA TAYLOR, a sales associate and Coldwell Banker Certified Previews Property Specialist in the Longmeadow office, was named a member of the Buyer Broker Task Force.

As a sales associate in the Longmeadow office, LAURA STEVENS, GRI, CRS, and Coldwell Banker Certified Previews Properties Specialist, holds a Massachusetts broker's license, has served as an Alternative State Director for the past four years, and has been elected as a State Director for 1999.

Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation, a subsidiary of Cendant Corporation (NYSE:CD), franchises more than 2,800 independently owned and operated real estate offices with nearly 62,000 sales associates throughout North America.

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Legal Memo

by
Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



Premises Liability: Slip & Fall On Ice

The plaintiff alleged that he fell while descending porch stairs when he slipped on a patch of ice. He claimed this ice patch formed when icicles on the house overhang dripped and formed ice on the steps. The plaintiff claimed that the overhang was a defective condition of the house.

The defense claimed that the accident happened during the remnants of a major snowstorm and that it was still snowing. The defense claimed that any fall was due to a natural ice formation and that the landlord did not have time to clear the ice.

The defense also contended that the plaintiff had lived at the premises for 14 years and never once complained about this dangerous condition. Additionally, the defense claimed that the plaintiff failed to use the handrail when descending the stairs.

The state sanitary code noted the landlord's duty to remove snow and ice from outside stairs as well as subsequent repairs of the overhang on both the issue of notice and feasibility of repair. This was helpful to the plaintiff in proving negligence on the landlord's part. The plaintiff's meteorologist was also helpful in his explanation as to why the icicles were dripping despite the temperature reading.

The jury awarded the plaintiff \$122,500.00 for his injuries, which included a fractured tibia and kneecap replacement.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

— Be sure to check our classifieds —

* * *

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is each Tuesday
at 12:00 noon;
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Many thanks to Ray Desrosiers

For Your Health



Your Back And Your Health
by Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

A Fall On The Ice

Question: A recent slip on a snow-covered walk found me lying flat on my back. My neck snapped. I hurt for awhile. Luckily, nothing was broken. Now I'm starting to get neck pain with headaches. Now it seems that my fingers are falling asleep. Is this something I should see a chiropractor for?

ANSWER: Yes! Everyone knows how damaging a fall on the ice can be. You might suffer a concussion. It can cause an elderly person to break a hip or fracture an arm. Less obvious is disturbance to the spinal vertebrae. What you are describing is a fall significant enough to damage supportive tissue and misaligned spinal vertebrae. This compresses or pinches nerves that exit from the spine resulting in headache and numbness in the arms/hands.

When vertebrae remain in an abnormal position for a period of time, they begin to heal that way. Splinting occurs and the area becomes prone to degenerative changes and weakness. The longer you wait, the more difficult to correct.

If you understand the less obvious condition of misaligning the spine and its effect on your health, you're one step ahead! Once found, correction through appropriate chiropractic treatment may save you months of years of suffering!

The SCHLAFFER CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE welcomes anyone who may have been injured in a fall or accident. Call us at (413) 789-1369.

* * *

Best hometown news with us, each and every week...



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Here Are Some Powerful Weapons In The Fight Against Colon Cancer...

About 360 Americans are diagnosed with colon or rectal cancer each day. Research shows that factors such as eating a low-fiber, high-fat diet and drinking alcohol may increase the risk of developing colon cancer.

But, a new study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association indicates that nutrients found in low-fat milk, yogurt, and cheese may reduce the risk of this deadly disease.

Peter Holt, M.D. from Columbia University, says, "Colon cancer is a common problem in the United States. What's exciting is that we found that natural products such as low-fat dairy foods — which are found in everyone's kitchen — may reduce the risk of colon cancer."

In the study, patients at-risk for colon cancer were divided into two groups. One maintained its conventional diet and the other increased its intake of low-fat dairy products. Participants were

monitored for one year to evaluate changes in the colon cells.

Significant positive changes were observed after just six months in the group that increased its intake of low-fat dairy products. This new research supports a 19-year study that found nutrients in milk may help reduce cancers of the colon and rectum.

Cedric Garland, Dr.P.H., F.A.C.E. of the University of California, says, "According to our research and the research of others, vitamin D and calcium are the two principal components in milk that reduce the risk of colorectal cancer. But, there may be other compounds present that provide some of the benefit."

Adding milk group foods to your diet is easy. Add milk to your coffee. Put an extra slice of cheese on your sandwich, or substitute milk for water when making soup or hot cereal.

Greg Miller, Ph.D., Vice-President of Nutrition Research at the National Dairy Council, says, "Clearly, small dietary changes, such as incorporating more dairy into your diet, can help reduce the risk of colon cancer. This adds to the body of research that shows that dairy food consumption can help reduce the risk of certain chronic diseases — osteoporosis, hypertension, and now cancer."

Although prevention and early detection are key factors in controlling the development of colon cancer, milk and milk group foods may offer new hope in the struggle against this deadly disease.

Nancy Dell, M.S., is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association. She can be reached at (413) 786-2957.

Various Support Groups Offered At The Agawam Senior Center

The Caregivers Support Group continues at the Agawam Senior Center on the third Monday of each month from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

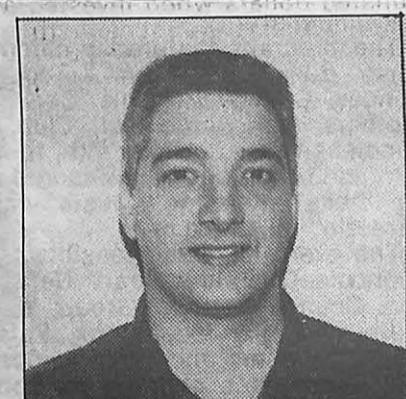
If you are caring for your spouse, an elderly parent, or relative, come and share with us or receive some support.

For more information, please call Gail Freeman

at 789-7199.

The Mental Illness Support Group continues at the Agawam Senior Center on the last Monday of every month from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

For more information, please call Gail Freeman at 789-7199.



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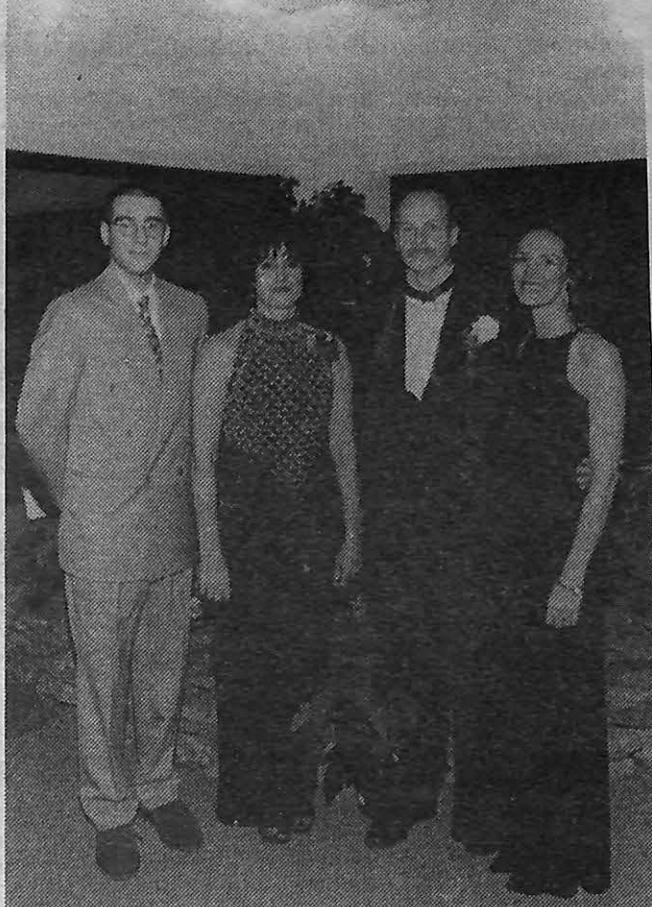
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For Your Health - continued...



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Mike & Leila Mudawar, and Paul & Maureen Fuller. Leila Mudawar was the chairperson of the 1998 Christmas Seal Ball, sponsored by the American Lung Association. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

American Lung Assoc. Holds Christmas Seal Ball

The 1998 Christmas Seal® Ball, sponsored by the American Lung Association, was held at the Oaks on December 5th. Over 375 people attended the annual event.

The program featured a Silent Auction with items donated by AAA, Teddy Bear Pools, Cohoes, College Formals, Bertera Auto, Kaoud Brothers, Oak Ridge Golf Club, Carroll Travel, Candleberries, and Peter Pan, to name a few.

In addition, Cohoes sponsored a fashion show for those attending. Music was provided by "Breezin'" 'til 1:00 a.m.

The event is made possible by the following sponsors: Christmas Seal® Benefactors—Hampden County Medical Group; Major Sponsor—Pulmonary Services, Inc.; Patrons—Baystate Health Systems and Lincare; Contributors—Key Pharmaceuticals and United Cooperative Bank; Sponsors—Apria Health Care, Paulson & Michaels Advertising, and Greater Media Cable.

Anthony Choquette, who has been chosen as the Christmas Seal® Ambassador for 1998-1999, was present, along with other celebrities such as Brenda Garton, TV 22, Miss Connecticut 1998, and Beth Carroll, TV 40.

Christmas Seals® went on sale for the first time on December 9, 1907 in Wilmington, Delaware to help raise funds to fight tuberculosis. Today, the American Lung Association still mails millions of sheets of Christmas Seals® to home across the country.

"The major emphasis of the programs are now asthma education and cleaning up the air in the environment," said Leila Mudawar, this year's Christmas Seal® Ball chairperson.

Cancer Support Group To Meet At Mercy On Monday Evenings

Persons with cancer, their families, and friends are invited to attend Mercy Hospital's Cancer Support Group. Meetings are conducted Mondays, 7:00 p.m., in the Deliso Conference Center, and are free of charge.

The group offers information on topics of interest to cancer patients, and provides an opportunity to share experiences in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Meetings are facilitated by Sr. Madeleine Joy, S.P., of Mercy's Pastoral Care Department.

For more information, call the Pastoral Care Department, (413) 748-9453.



ENJOYING THEMSELVES AT the American Lung Association's 1998 Christmas Seal Ball (from left to right): Dean & Sylvia Molta, Irene & Rene Thomas, Joan & Bill Bessette, and Pat & Mario Sakellis. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF the American Lung Association (from left to right): Sam & Kristina Gourley, Bruno & Paula Antico, and Gail & Bob Longo. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

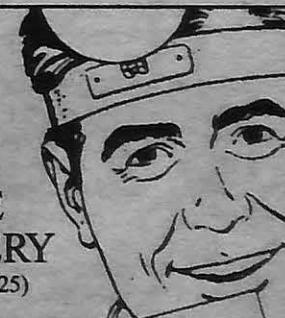
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Chiropractic Care by Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic Physician
Hampden County Chiropractic
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Feeding Hills
786-4820

The Importance Of Making Time For An "Adjustment"...

Very rarely do I ever get a cold. I eat balanced meals, exercise, and get adjusted — all of which help keep my immune system as healthy and strong as possible.

Over the holidays, I noticed my neck was very tight and restricted in motion. I experienced pain with turning and bending the neck too far. I knew an adjustment was needed to restore proper motion of the vertebrae, decrease muscle spasm, and allow the nerves to function at 100-percent efficiency.

But, of course, it was the holiday season; I was busy shopping, wrapping, baking, cleaning, etc. I didn't schedule myself for an adjustment with one of my colleagues (who are very accommodating, by the way).

There is one disadvantage to being a chiropractor, in that you can't adjust yourself! So time went on, with my neck bothering me with certain movements. But that's not all; my sleep was affected, too. When I would turn, the pain would wake me up.

Then, in the early A.M. when I would usually go for my run, I was too tired because I didn't sleep well the night before. Now I'm not exercising and I'm tired, so extra caffeine during the day is needed to help get me through.

Interesting to note that at this point a cold comes along. My immune system is weakened, which results in disease. What do I do now? Take pills to cover the symptoms, which will probably inadvertently affect other areas and continue a downward spiral?

No, get adjusted, which will restore motion, which will reduce pain, which will allow proper sleep, which will restore energy, which will enable exercise, which will increase the immune system to a healthy state again.

Next time I'm due for an adjustment, I'll make the time. In the long run, it takes much more time not taking good care of yourself. You'd think I'd know that by now!

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

SAFE KIDS Coalition For Making A Safe "Winter Wonderland"

"While winter activities provide children with amusement during the colder months, they can also be life-threatening," says Shirley LaRoche, R.N., coordinator, Western Mass. SAFE KIDS Coalition, headquartered at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital in Springfield.

"Our Emergency Department has seen winter drownings and serious sledding accidents over the past couple of years, and parents and caregivers need to keep a watchful eye on winter play, limit outdoor playtime when temperatures are frigid, and be sure their children dress appropriately for the weather."

The Western Massachusetts SAFE KIDS Coalition recommends the following suggestions to help keep your children safe this winter:

WINTER DROWNING

Most parents associate drowning with summer months, but the increased use of hot tubs and whirlpools, as well as the danger of hidden bodies of water or weak ice, make winter drownings a risk as well.

- Allow children to skate only on ponds or lakes that have been approved for skating.

- Supervise children in or near a pool, hot tub, or any body of water.

- Beware of children overheating in hot tubs and whirlpools.

- Make sure pools and spas are secure. Install four-sided isolation fencing that is at least five feet high. The fence should have a self-closing and self-latching gate. Do not use the exterior of the house as one side of the fence.

FROSTBITE

- Dress children warmly. Several thin layers will help keep children dry as well as warm. Clothing should consist of thermal long johns, turtlenecks, one or two shirts, pants, sweater, coat, warm socks, boots, gloves or mittens, and a hat.

SEE "WINTER" - Page 22...

Free Seminar On Prostate Health Scheduled

Baystate Medical Center will sponsor a free evening seminar on prostate health for men entitled "Prostate Cancer: What Every Man Should Know," Wednesday, Jan. 20th, in the hospital's Chestnut Conference Center.

The free event, which will include information on the latest advances in treatment, including the new prostate seed implant therapy introduced at Baystate last summer, will be led by Drs. Raphael

deLima and Mohammad Mostafavi of the Urology Group of Western New England.

The program, which will include educational presentations from 6:30-8:30 p.m., will be preceded at 6:00 p.m. with a complimentary buffet.

Registration is required and seating is limited. To register, call The Professionals at 413-794-2255 or 1-800-377-HEALTH.

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For Your Health - continued...

Support Groups, Courses, And Programs At Noble

SUPPORT GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous: Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield. Free of charge. All are welcome.

Stroke Support Group: Wednesday, January 27th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital. Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke and their spouses or support persons.

At this meeting, Jennifer Piotte, a Registered Occupational Therapist, will talk about Adaptive Equipment.

Diabetes Support Group: Tuesday, January 26th, 1:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital. Free of charge and open to individuals who have diabetes and their support persons.

At this meeting, Dr. Aliotta will address "What's New with Diabetes Neuropathy?"

COURSES/CLINICS/PROGRAMS:

Free Athletic Injury Clinic: Thursday, January 21st, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. At Noble Hospital's Sports & Rehabilitation Center, 76 Main Street, Westfield.

During this clinic (which is held on the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of every month), athletic injuries are evaluated by a certified athletic trainer and, based upon the evaluation, remedial exercises or physician referral may be recommended.

For an appointment, call 562-3522.

Cosmetic/Plastic Surgery with Dr. Gary Russolillo: Tuesday, January 19th, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. At Noble Hospital.

Gary E. Russolillo, MD, will present a lecture about Body Contouring Surgeries, Lip Enhancements, Facial Surgeries, and Skin Care Procedures. Also included will be a live chemical peel demonstration.

The presentation will be followed by a complimentary personal consultation. Registration is free, and seating is limited.

Pre-registration is required. To register, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.

CPR Course: Wednesdays, January 20th and January 27th, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. In the Education Department/Ground Floor at Noble Hospital.

This two-part course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant Certification. Cost of the course is \$45.

To register or obtain more information, call Noble Hospital's Education Department at (413) 572-5172.

"Common Ocular Disorders & Macular Degeneration" - Lecture with Mary Gina Ratcliff, M.D., and Brad Foster, M.D.: Wednesday, January 20th, 6:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

The lecture is free of charge. Seating is limited, and advance registration is required.

To register, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.

— Best local news ... AAN!!! —

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Fitness Tips...

Fitness Schedules Can Survive Vacations

by Carmela A. Kirk, RN
Fitness Director, Fitness First

Going away on a vacation is a wonderful way to rejuvenate energy and spend quality time with your loved ones. Vacations can also put a quick halt to your fitness schedule.

As you may have guessed, I have been away for a while. I was visiting family in Florida over the holidays. I thought I'd start back with sharing some ideas on how to maintain your level of fitness, without taking away from your holiday.

This was not an easy task; my goal was to spend lots of time with my family and relax. I also had to keep in mind I'd be expected to get back to teaching upon my arrival home. Two things helped: planning and prioritizing.

The plan was to maintain a level of fitness without taking away from the vacation or burdening my family with my routine. I decided to fit in three cardiovascular training and three resistance training workouts per week into my schedule.

I was to be gone about 2½ weeks (plenty of time to lose strength and endurance), so I felt this plan was a good goal. I worked out very faithfully just before leaving. This enabled me to take the first few days off without worrying too much.

"WINTER" - from Page 21...

• Set reasonable time limits on outdoor play. Call children in periodically to warm up with drinks such as hot chocolate.

• When possible, avoid taking infants outdoors when it is colder than 40 degrees F. Infants lose body heat quickly.

If a child complains of numbness or pain in the fingers, toes, nose, cheeks, or ears while playing in the snow, or if the skin is blistered, hard to the touch, or glossy, be alerted to the possibility of frostbite and take the following steps:

• Take the child indoors and call a doctor. Tell the child to wiggle the affected body part(s) to increase blood supply to that area. Warm the frozen part(s) against the body by holding fingers to the chest, for example.

• Immerse frozen part(s) in warm, not hot, water. Frozen tissue is fragile and can be damaged easily. Avoid warming with high heat from radiators, fireplaces, or stoves, and avoid rubbing or breaking blisters.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

• Keep your driveways and sidewalks well-shoveled, and apply material such as rock salt or sand to improve traction.

• Make sure that children under age 10 do not cross streets alone, and make sure children wear appropriate shoes and brightly colored (not white) clothing while walking in snowy conditions. Use retroreflective clothing or stickers for maximum protection, especially at dawn and dusk.

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Although running is not my strongest activity or my favorite, it was my only choice while away. Florida is pretty flat; to my pleasant surprise, I felt I could run longer and faster.

Before the children rose on three early mornings, I was up enjoying quiet solitude and getting a challenging workout. In the evening, I was able to do push-ups, lunges, squats, and a nice, long abdominal workout without taking away from anything ... and it felt great. I only did these the nights we were home and enjoying a quiet evening.

Prioritizing was also important. If fitness is already important to you, you know it can be frustrating not getting to work out. You need to remember it is a vacation for you and your family. As long as you keep up the basics every couple of days, it won't be so hard to get back.

Am I as strong as I was when I left? NO. Can I get back there? No problem! Did I achieve my goal? Yes — I spent a lot of time with my family and relaxed.

Can I teach class in the morning? Come join us and find out!!!

Local Meetings Dealing With Mental Illness Issues

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Western Massachusetts, Inc. has announced the following groups which are free and open to the public.

For Those With Depression and Manic Depression-Westfield: 20 Broad Street, Westfield. Meets first and third Tuesdays of the month, 7:00 p.m.

For Adult Siblings and Adult Children of those with Mental Illness: AMI-WM Office, 717½ Main Street, Agawam. Meets second Tuesday of the month, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

For Adults with a Mentally Ill Relative-Agawam: Agawam Council on Aging, 68 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam. Meets last Monday of the month, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Noble Hospital Seeking Volunteers

The Volunteer Services Department at Noble Hospital is looking for individuals interested in volunteering at the hospital. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities available, including the Coffee Shop Clerk, Gift Shop Clerk, Admitting Host/Hostess, etc.

Volunteering is a great way to stay active while meeting new people and helping your community. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, please contact Melinda Partridge in the Volunteer Services Department at (413) 572-5030.



Arts

Last Week's Solution...

ICE'S	ADAM'S	BLOOT
RAMA	HELOT	RAIVE
APED	ACARE	VURAL
NEEDY	RALES	
ISRAEL	SKNESSET	
MAIW	TEMA	
ADD	OOP	ELITE
GERMANBUND	DESTAG	
AIREEL	TOE	SROI
MATE	OWN'S	
TAMERICAN	CANSENATE	
OTHER	WIREIS	
OMAR	ADEED	PINT
DEMI	SEALIS	ESSE
ERIC	ASSET	BEER

ACROSS

1 Singe
 5 Cooke and Elliott
 9 Spanish stew pot
 13 American painter Winslow
 15 Lotion ingredient
 16 Bob and Bing's milieu
 17 Speedily
 18 "— avis" (rare bird)
 19 TAE middle
 20 Columbus' loony queen
 23 Enclosure
 24 Grandfather of Saul
 25 Boston nickname (with The)
 28 Guido's high note
 31 Bald bird
 35 Tel Aviv's land (abbr.)
 36 Small food fish
 38 Seed
 40 Singer Barbra acting coy
 43 Passover feast
 44 Puts in a new lawn
 45 Use a spade
 46 "— a beet"
 48 Female sandpiper
 49 Observe
 50 "— Impossible" (Como hit)
 52 American Army in WWI
 55 Sara in a snit
 62 Cable
 63 Animal fat
 64 Pull over on the sea
 66 First name in scat
 67 Cleveland waterfront
 68 "— Carlo"
 69 Salad vegetable
 70 Lairs
 71 Paper measure

1 Tea in China
 2 Southwestern Indian
 3 "— For All Seasons"
 4 Sum up (colloq.)
 5 Ranee's cloak
 6 Word of woe
 7 Actress Erin
 8 WWII construction soldier
 9 Exam type
 10 Hang around
 11 Etna output
 12 Actress Rehan
 14 Descartes
 21 Foe
 22 Expunges
 25 Greet the villain
 26 Wedding party member
 27 Blushing one
 29 Not as much
 30 Change
 32 Certain Drs.
 33 Backbreakers
 34 Tennessee Ford
 36 Narrow waterway
 37 Aspen
 39 Rim
 41 Part of FPIC (abbr.)
 42 Bulblighters?
 47 Designed with a flair
 51 Intent look
 53 Cheese with a red rind
 54 Party trinket
 55 Floor square
 56 Author Gardner
 57 Pew or banc
 58 "— Go Braugh"
 59 Summer libations
 60 Clark Kent's co-worker
 61 This (Spanish)
 62 Thing that's spun
 65 "Pro —"

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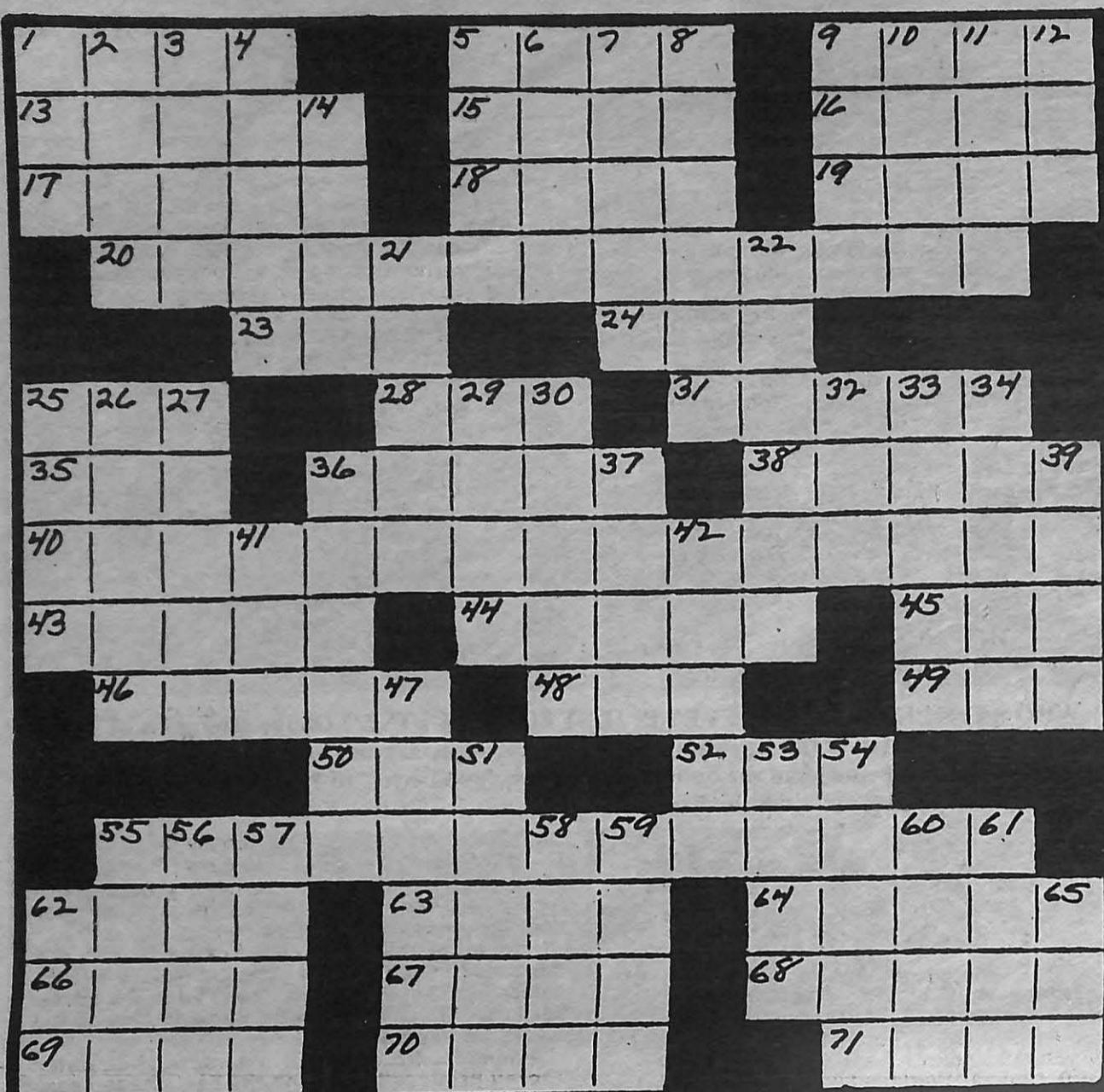
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Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



* * * * *

Dick Mastroianni's ever-challenging "Meet The Master" is a regular feature of The Agawam Advertiser News...

* * * * *

Hampden County Medical Group, Inc., Michael J. Jawitz, M.D., and Agawam Family Physicians announce the implementation of a new medical concept:

STAYING WELL

Effective January 1, 1999, Dr. Jawitz is changing the size and scope of his practice. He will continue to provide "primary practice" to over 3,000 local residents. However, much of his schedule will be restricted to teaching "wellness." Unfortunately, some of the patients who have been under his medical care will need to be transferred to other providers. Dr. Chauhan, our associate at 141 Main Street, together with Julie Abert, N.P., and Phil Yanni, P.A., should be able to provide primary care to the majority of our patients, though affected patients can transfer to any provider they wish. No patient will be turned away. It is expected that most patients will be contacted by this office and/or their insurance companies (in the case of HMO's) if a transfer to another PCP will be necessary. Until that time, no patient will be unattended.

Crafters Sought For Junior Women's 25th Arts & Crafts Fairs

Crafters are sought for the Agawam Junior Women's Club's 25th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair, which is scheduled for Saturday, June 5th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Fair will be held on the grounds of the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street in Agawam. All types of artisans and crafters are invited to participate in this event. The show will be juried and feature approximately 80 to 90 exhibitors.

Admission is free, and all proceeds benefit the Agawam Junior Women's Club Scholarship Fund. Tours of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House will be available. A Youth Art Exhibit will be on display as well.

The size of each space will be 12' x 12', and a showing fee of \$45 will be due at time of application. A food concession will also be available during the day for your convenience.

For more information or an application, please call Paula at (413) 786-0511 or Theresa at (413) 786-6515.

141 Main Street, Agawam — 786-0880

Children Celebrate The End Of 1998...



WHO SAYS "NEW YEAR'S EVE" IS JUST FOR ADULTS??? On the afternoon of Thursday, December 31st, at the Agawam Public Library, Agawam and Feeding Hills children (pictured above and below) had the opportunity to say "good-bye" to 1998 with a variety of age-appropriate games, activities, and snacks. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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Musical Cabaret To Be Staged At Red Door Theatre

STAGE II will present an evening of Broadway's best music for young performers entitled "Next Stop, New York." The cabaret showcases the talents of many area young people as they sing and dance their way through numbers that have been performed on Broadway by young people.

This is an evening for the whole family, who will sit at cabaret tables to enjoy musical numbers from "Annie," "The King and I," "Oliver," and many others.

Directors Margie Secora and Lyle Persons have gathered together a top-notch cast of young performers ages nine to 21 who auditioned for the four shows to be presented Friday and Saturday (January 29th and 30th) at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday (January 30th and 31st) at 2:00 p.m.

The actors will include Morgan Allen, Megan Banks, Scott Belisle, Megan Dulude, Christopher Jenkins, Alex Kane, Kara and Katie Lewantowicz, Nicole Messmer, Ally Bertagnoli, Enjoli Chiclana, Jodie Pfau, Kate Quill, Mathew Niles, Erin Richardson, Steve Sands, Jaime and Tyler Persons, Marcy Secora, Elizabeth Riverburgh, and Greg Weld.

All performances will be held at The Red Door Theatre, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. Tickets are \$7 for adults, and \$5 for children under 12 and senior citizens.

Reservations are strongly recommended, as seating is limited. Call (413) 789-2026 for ticket reservations.

WTG To Present Annual Evening Of One-Act Plays

The Westfield Theatre Group, a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, will present its eighth annual Evening of One-Acts on Friday and Saturday, January 15th-16th at 7:30 p.m.

They invite you to come and enjoy an evening of fun and entertainment after the holiday rush is over.

Three shows will be presented by directors Tom LeCourt and Adam Bradley Maxfield, including "The Marriage Proposal," "Eve of the Trial," and "Just Desserts."

Some of the returning members to the Westfield Stage include Shelley Haber, Kathleen Palmer, Mike Tesini, Marion Dunk, Robert Martin, and Mike Connors. Newcomers include Mike Henry, Chris Waldron, Scott Belisle, Taryn Buckley, Heidi Bolster, and Jenn Roda.

The shows will be presented at the Woman's Club, 28 Court Street. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and seniors. Reservations may be made by calling the theatre box office at 572-6838. Snow dates are January 22nd and 23rd.

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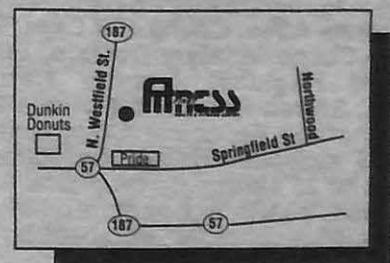
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Education

Agawam High School's January Calendar Of Events

January 15th: Discussion Group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

January 18th: Annual Band Auction at Sacred Heart Church, Feeding Hills (5:00 p.m.).

January 20th: Family Education Group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

January 21st: AHS School Improvement Council meeting (7:00 p.m.); Anger Management Group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program; Band and Chorus Concert (7:00 p.m.); Distribution of exam exemptions to gold and gold plus card holders by Renaissance; Lollipop Sale Scholarship Fundraiser sponsored by Peer Leadership.

January 22nd: Discussion group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

January 25th: MID-YEAR EXAMINATIONS: Period I, 7:25 to 9:05 a.m.; Period II, 9:10 to 10:40 a.m.; Period III, 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

January 26th: MID-YEAR EXAMINATIONS: Period IV, 7:25 to 9:05 a.m.; Period V, 9:10 to 10:40 a.m.; Make-Up Exams, 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; Eighth Grade Band Night at AHS (6:00 to 9:00 p.m.).

January 27th: MID-YEAR EXAMINATIONS: Period VI, 7:25 to 9:05 a.m.; Period VII, 9:10 to 10:40 a.m.; Make-Up Exams, 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

January 28th: Math Team practice; Anger Management Group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

January 29th: Discussion Group sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

January 30th: All-State Band auditions in Northboro.

Area Students Named To Dean's List At STCC

Area residents who have been named to the Dean's List for the fall 1998 semester at Springfield Technical Community College have been announced by Executive Vice President/Academic Affairs John H. Dunn.

The Dean's List is published each semester to recognize above-average academic performance. Students carrying a full-time course load of 12 or more semester hours, who achieve a quality point average of 3.3 or above, are placed on the Dean's List.

Agawam residents named to the Dean's List are Darcy Bates, David Bedard, John Krause, Toni Loguidice, Rhonda Marchetti, Bonnie Mitchell, Brenda Ober, Brian Smith, Deborah Struck, Diane Sullivan, and Marc Tassone.

Feeding Hills residents named to the Dean List are Donna Allen, Chung Chi Choi, Geoffrey Ciak, Nancy Cuccovia, Mary DeMaio, Eileen Grimaldi, Richard Haglund, Jennifer Hermans, Laurie Lyman, Steven Reed, and Melinda Williams.

Springfield Technical Community College offers 43 associate degree programs with 25 options and 28 certificate programs, in the areas of business, health sciences, nursing, engineering and science transfer, engineering technologies and liberal arts and sciences.

Rosemary Sandlin Elected To MASC's Board Of Directors

Rosemary Sandlin, a 17-year member of the Agawam School Committee, was elected to the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) Board of Directors at the Association's annual meeting on November 7th.

Ms. Sandlin will serve as the Board of Director's secretary-treasurer, effective January 1st. She previously served as chair of MASC's Division V-Connecticut Valley geographical region.

A graduate of the Agawam Public Schools, Ms. Sandlin has been a strong advocate for early childhood programs in the district, calling recently for a study of a full-day kindergarten option. She has also worked actively for children and families in the district: for 15 years she has advocated for affordable elderly and family housing as a member of the Agawam Housing Authority, and has also been involved in many volunteer efforts including the Agawam Athletic Association, the Agawam Rotary Club, and the Melconian Charity Golf Tournament Committee, which recently raised over \$150,000 for battered women in Hampden County. In recognition of her many contributions to the community, Ms. Sandlin was named the Agawam Jaycee's "Woman of the Year."

Ms. Sandlin is currently chief of staff to Senate Assistant Majority Leader Senator Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield). She also serves as treasurer of the Agawam Housing Authority, chair of Brightwood Development Corporation, a member of Springfield Action Commission's Advisory Council, and was recently appointed to fill a two-year term on the Democratic State Committee.

A resident of Agawam, Ms. Sandlin is the proud mother of four children and the grandmother of three.

MASC is a non-profit organization that

St. Mary's High To Hold Placement Test This Saturday

The St. Mary's High School Placement Test, which was originally scheduled for Saturday, January 9th, was postponed due to inclement weather.

It has been rescheduled for Saturday, January 16th at 8:30 a.m. and will conclude at 12:00 noon. The test will be held at the school, located on 27 Bartlett St., Westfield.

Students who have already registered do not need to re-register. Anyone who would like more information or who has not yet registered may do so by calling the school at 568-5692.



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AHS Marching Mohawks Slate Annual Auction

The Agawam High School state champion Marching Mohawks will be holding their annual auction on Monday, January 18th at the Agawam Sacred Heart Parish Center.

Preview is at 5:30 p.m. and the auction is at 6:30. Rose Rossi will serve as the auctioneer. This auction will help fund their trip to Virginia Beach this spring.

All the local school news with us, each & every week!

* * *

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More Volunteers Needed For Tutoring At The Junior High And High School

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Most folks trying to enter the Agawam High School at dismissal time feel as if they are swimming against a tidal wave of teens eager to get into their cars and out of the parking lot as fast as possible. But, the onrushing tide gives way twice a week and makes room for Fred Roberts' powered wheelchair as the kids stop to open doors for the volunteer math tutor.

A retired engineer in his 70's, Roberts is one of the founding members of the Agawam School Volunteer Tutors, a group launched three years ago by retired Springfield Technical Community College biology professor Mary L. Bennett and her husband, John. The program brings together students who are struggling with their academic work and caring adult mentors willing to give an hour or two a week to help a kid.

"While I enjoy being with my grandchildren, this is another way for me to be with young people and see their enthusiasm and their energy," Roberts said. "Sometimes my heart goes out to them when they're having a mental block with their math and they just need another way to look at things to see where their difficulties are. What's helpful is the one-on-one situation they don't get when the teachers have their after-school help sessions for a group of students. Also, sometimes it helps to take a different approach."

Originally offered only to students at the High School, the free tutoring program expanded to the Junior High last spring and has been so successful that more tutors are needed to keep up with the students' requests for the help sessions, according to retired Middle School librarian Sylvia Deliso, who tutors students in reading.

Mrs. Deliso said she joined the program because schools are such an important part of the community and because she could see the need for tutors. Like the rest of the tutors, Mrs. Deliso believes the relationships with the students and the satisfaction of seeing a student improve are the most rewarding aspects of the job.

The hour long one-on-one help sessions are held after school or during a student's study period with tutoring available in math, English, science, history, and world languages. The greatest need is for math tutors and many students have their names on a waiting list for help, Mrs. Deliso said.

Recognition Tea

Over the holidays, the group held a recognition tea to honor the volunteers and to present Roberts with a certificate of appreciation as the tutor with the most hours of service to the students. Roberts joked that he was able to amass the most hours simply because there is always a need for more math tutors, but he admitted feeling a great deal of satisfaction in helping students overcome their difficulties and feeling an obligation to help the students.

Roberts was also one of the founding members of the American Intercultural Program (AFS) Chapter in Agawam back in 1976.

Although many of the tutors are retired teachers, a background in education is not needed to be accepted into the program as a tutor. Tutors must have a bachelor's degree, a willingness to help a student over the rough spots, and as little as one hour a week to devote to the program. Some tutoring sessions are scheduled during the school day, but most sessions take place after school from 2:00-3:00 p.m. or 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Students are referred to the tutoring program after a request is made by a parent, teacher, or the student and after the principal determines whether or not the student's lack of success is due to an attendance problem. Before a student is accepted into the tutoring program, the principal makes sure the student has a sincere desire to take advantage of the help and has a good school attendance record.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a School Volunteer Tutor can contact Mary Bennett at 786-3739 or Patricia Roberts at 786-8580.



FRED ROBERTS (center) receives a certificate of appreciation from Mary Bennett (left) for donating the most hours to tutoring Agawam students. Looking on is Fred's wife, Pat (right). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Kevin D. Burton Receives Graphic Arts Award At RIT

Kevin D. Burton, son of Andrea Burton of 37 Thalia Drive and Jeff Burton of 719 North Street, has been awarded a Robert P. Scripps Graphic Arts Award in Newspaper Production Management at Rochester (N.Y.) Institute of Technology for the 1998/99 academic year.

Burton, is a second-year newspaper operations management major in RIT's School of Printing Management and Sciences and a 1985 Agawam High School graduate.

Established in 1966 at RIT, this fund provides academic scholarships annually to students in Rochester Institute of Technology's School of Printing Management and Sciences. The criteria for this scholarship was updated in 1997, at the same time the Scripps Howard Foundation made arrangements to endow two separate scholarships for printing students at RIT.

Preferences will be given to students in RIT's Newspaper Operations Management program, but students in any printing program in the School of Printing Management and Sciences may be eligible for the award.

For the past decade, *U.S. News and World Report* has ranked RIT as one of the nation's leading comprehensive universities. RIT is also included in *Yahoo Internet Life's Top 100 Wired Universities*, *Fisk's Guide to America's Best Colleges*, as well as *Barron's Best Buys in Education*.

Kathryne Smith Attains Dean's List At Bay Path College

Kathryne Smith, daughter of Anne Marie Smith-Rooney of Kirkland Street, Agawam, attained dean's list standing for academic excellence last semester at Bay Path College. A member of the freshman class, she is enrolled in the psychology program.

Founded in 1897, Bay Path College is a private, four-year, women's college located in Longmeadow, with a diverse student body from throughout the U.S. and around the globe. Offering distinctive baccalaureate and associate degree programs that prepare women for professional roles in a contemporary society, Bay Path focuses on the development of leadership, communication, and technological skills.

The college offers programs in accounting, business, communication, criminal justice, dispute resolution, early childhood and elementary education, English, fine and performing arts, gerontology, history, human resource management, information technology, interior design, international business, legal studies, liberal arts, liberal studies, occupational therapy, paralegal, psychology, science, and travel and hospitality.

Holiday Research At Clark Elementary School



MRS. PALAZZI AND MRS. JAMROZ'S class at Clark School (above and below) has been spending the last couple of weeks doing research reports on countries around the world and the December holidays. The culmination was an international food festival which took the place of a Christmas party. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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with Mary Gina Ratchford, M.D.
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Wednesday, January 20, 1999

6:00 p.m.

Conference Room A

Noble Hospital

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Seating is limited and advance registration is required.

To register, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at

413-568-2328



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CLASS OF '98 GRADUATES at AHS's "Back To School Day": Maureen Dimock, Bryan O'Quinn, Courtney Locke, Bob Bousquet, Lindy Gage, and Amber Conte. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

AHS Guidance Department Hosts "Back To School Day"

The Agawam High School Guidance Department hosted a "Back To School Day" on Monday, December 21st. Some students from the Agawam High School class of 1998 (who were home from college) returned to speak to the 11th- and 12th-grade English classes on their college experiences.

The following graduates participated:

Maria Tirone, STCC; Elisa Shea, Robert Bousquet, and Bryan O'Quinn, UMass; Jon Couture, Boston University; Jim Crowley, University of South Carolina; Joe DePalma, STCC; Amber Conte, Suffolk University; Lindy Gage, Hobart/William Smith.

Gina Markowski, Union College; Christy Dubay, Wheaton College; George Krapf, Northeastern University; Courtney Locke, Holy Cross; Maureen Dimock, Fordham University; and Liz McGrew, University of Arizona.

It was the hope of the Guidance Department that listening to students who are already in college would not only provide this year's seniors with information about college, but would also help to lessen the fears some students have about going away to school.

The students, teachers, and counselors were impressed by the speakers and hope to make this an annual event.

Kindergarten Registration At St. Thomas

Registration for the full-day kindergarten program at St. Thomas the Apostle School in West Springfield, for the fall of 1999, will be held as follows:

Wednesday, Jan. 20th, for siblings of children already in the school; Thursday, Jan. 21st, for St. Thomas parishioners; Friday, Jan. 22nd, for all other interested families.

Registration takes place from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Women's Club Room of the school and parents must provide the child's social security number as well as a copy of the birth and Baptismal certificates to be retained by the school.

Children must be five years of age according to the requirement of the city or town in which they reside.



JUST THREE DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS, jolly ol' Saint Nick — a.k.a. Santa Claus — paid a visit to the children at Perry Lane Nursery School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

"Gift-Givers" At Robinson Park School...



WITH THE HELP OF SANTA CLAUS, members of Robinson Park's PTO distributed gifts to the schoolchildren prior to their Christmas vacation. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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AS GREAT AS YOU WANT TO MAKE IT

Troop 562 Goes To "Beantown"...

On June 28th of last year, the girls in Troop 562 took a trip to Boston with their leaders, Linda Albano, Joanne Prout, and Jean Mantha, and Junior Girl Scout Sara Mantha.

This trip was the result of a lot of hard work and dedication among the girls during their cookie sale. They set their goals and (with much success) made this trip a reality.

We took off for Boston around 8:00 a.m. and headed for the Freedom Trail, which was first on our agenda following a trip to the Aquarium. This was a hit with everyone, since it's not every day we are entertained by seals and dolphins.

We ended the day with a walk through Faneuil Hall, taking in all the unusual sights and a late dinner in the marketplace. We arrived back in Agawam around 9:00 p.m. that evening.

This was one cookie sale that really paid off!

We would like to thank everyone that supported us in this cookie sale and helped make our trip a great success. As we gear up for this year's cookie sale, we hope to surpass last year's sale and make our goal and dreams come true.

We'll be seeing you soon!

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, January 18th: No school (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day).

Tuesday, January 19th: Steamed frank-furt in roll, New England baked beans, oven potato wedge, chilled mixed fruit cup, milk.

Wednesday, January 20th: Sweet sausage patties with tomato sauce, buttered macaroni, tossed garden salad with Italian dressing, bread and butter, apple crisp, milk.

Thursday, January 21st: Hamburg patty in roll, steamed rice, orange-glazed carrots, chilled peaches or chocolate pudding with topping, milk.

Friday, January 22nd: Grilled cheese sandwich, oven potato rounds, seasoned green beans, fresh Mac apple or Jello with topping, milk.

(Tickets may be purchased on Monday in the elementary schools for the week. Meal price is \$1.10 daily. If paying by check, make check out to "Agawam School Lunch.")

Western District Music Festival Scheduled For This Sat., Jan. 16th

The annual Western District Music Festival, sponsored by the Massachusetts Music Educators' Association, will take place on Saturday, January 16th.

The concert will begin at 4:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

The Western District ensembles consist of a band, chorus, orchestra, and jazz ensemble. Several hundred students in grades nine through 12 auditioned for these groups. Accepted students were selected from 45 school districts in Western Massachusetts.

The band conductor is Alfred W. Dentino, Director of Bands at Concord-Carlisle Regional High School. The orchestra director is James Vinci from the Duxbury Public Schools. Richard Nickerson of the acclaimed Winham Chamber Singers is the conductor of the chorus. The jazz ensemble is under the direction of James O'Dell, the chair of the Music Division at the Boston Conservatory.

Admission to the concert is \$8. Tickets will be available at the door.



DURING THEIR TRIP TO BOSTON LAST JUNE, members of Troop 562 paid a visit to Faneuil Hall.

Kevin R. King Receives Honors At Vermont Tech. College

Kevin R. King of Feeding Hills received honors in Architectural & Building Engineering Technology during the fall semester at Vermont Technical College, according to registrar Michael Dempsey.

To earn honors, a student must earn a quality point average of between 3.0 and 3.49. Students must be carrying at least 12 credits during the semester to qualify.

"Dress-Down Day" At Jr. High Earns \$500 For Local Open Pantry

Every Friday during the month of December, the faculty and staff of Agawam Junior High School participated in a dress-down day to benefit the Open Pantry of Agawam/West Springfield.

Because of their generosity, \$500 was collected. A check will be presented to Ms. Candy Boucher, Executive Director of the Open Pantry.

Check our classified ads...

Benefit for Brenda Taylor Family Trust

Ziti & Meatball Dinner
Salad, Rolls, Dessert

Polish American Club Pavilion

139 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills

Saturday, January 16th

Serving From 5:00 - 7:00 PM
Cost - \$10.00 per person

Tickets available - Bob Binnenkade 786-5045

Polish American Club Bar 786-0927

Tuesdays at Polish American Bingo Kitchen 786-0973

Please help them in reestablishing themselves after the fire that devastated their apartment.

Door Prizes, Raffle and Music after the meal

If you are unable to attend, but still would like to contribute, send donations to Woronoco Savings Bank c/o Taylor Family Trust, P.O. Box 266, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Registration For STCC's Evening Classes At AHS

Registration began on Monday, January 11th, at the Springfield Technical Community College campus for spring semester STCC evening courses to be held at Agawam High School.

Registration will be offered at the high school only on the first evening of classes, pending seat availability. Classes will begin on Tuesday, January 26th.

A selection of STCC's most popular courses will again be offered in Agawam for the convenience of area residents. Credit courses are scheduled from 6:15 to 9:15 p.m., or 6:00 to 9:45 p.m., depending on the number of credits. The semester ends May 11th.

Credit courses are offered on Tuesday evenings and include Microcomputer Applications for Windows, Visual Basic 1, Principles of Management, English Composition 1, Elementary Spanish 2, and Introduction to Sociology.

Registration at the STCC campus is available in person, or by phone, by mail, or by fax. Registration hours starting January 11th are Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Wednesday and Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Starting January 19th, registration hours will be Monday to Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Payment may be made by check, VISA, Discover, or MasterCard.

Registration at Agawam High School will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26th. Textbooks will be available for purchase at the first meeting of each class.

For further information, call STCC Continuing Education at 781-1315, or visit the STCC website at www.stcc.mass.edu.

Weekly Guidance Bulletin From Agawam High School

Scholarships: See your counselor for more information or an application.

National Kidney Foundation Scholarships: 12 scholarships of \$700 each will be awarded to applicants who are kidney disease patients or have an immediate relative (sibling, parent/guardian, child) who is a kidney disease patient. **Deadline:** March 31, 1999.

Mensa Essay Contest: Awards for this scholarship are made on the basis of an essay that describes the applicant's career, vocational, or academic goals. It is not necessary that the applicant be a member of Mensa. **Deadline:** January 31, 1999.

Mass. Council on Alcohol Concerns Essay Contest: To enter this contest, a student must write a 600- to 1,200-word essay on theme, "Be a Winner Without Alcohol." The competition is open to students in Massachusetts public and private schools in grades nine through 12. **Deadline:** March 1, 1999.

* * * * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you...

* * * * *



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Attorney at Law



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- Business Law
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At The Middle School... 'Curriculum Connections' On February 4th

In October 1998, the PTO presidents from Agawam's elementary schools and Agawam Middle School met in the office of Mary Czajkowski, assistant superintendent of Agawam Schools, according to Carla Chase, president of Clark School PTO, to discuss the possibility of offering parents the opportunity to learn about changes in the curriculum.

The PTO presidents put together a survey to determine the amount of interest, and the results showed enough reason to present the opportunity to the parents. In December, the PTO presidents met with curriculum coordinators and prepared the format for the evening, which will be called "Curriculum Connections."

"Curriculum Connections" will be held on February 4th in the Agawam Middle School cafeteria from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Refreshments and introductions by Ms. Czajkowski are from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.

The First Session, from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m., will be health, mathematics, and science and technology; from 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. will be the Second Session, with language arts, reading, and social studies; and from 8:30 to 9:00 p.m. there will be a question-and-answer session, with Ms. Czajkowski, specialists, and various teachers available to respond to concerns the parents might have.

All are welcome to attend "Curriculum Connections." The schools involved will be sending out announcements on a weekly basis until the evening of "Curriculum Connections."

Holiday "Donors"...



WENDY LIEBERMAN with youngsters Brian Gingras, Angelina Massoia, Caitlin Lieberman, and Christopher Goralczyk at the Agawam Early Childhood Center, which donated gifts to the Agawam Junior Women's Club for the holidays. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Storowton Village Seeks Volunteers For 1999 School Programs

Eastern States Exposition's Storowton Village Museum in West Springfield is seeking individuals interested in volunteering for its 1999 school programs.

Volunteerism has been the lifeblood of the historic 19th century Village where a glimpse of life in early New England is presented through unique school programs such as "Look Back," "Little Red Schoolhouse," and "Today's Math in Yesterday's Market" for children.

Storowton Village Museum's educational program takes place throughout the school year and volunteers are needed for weekday mornings and afternoons.

The Village also hosts a number of tours, special events, and special programs during the year where volunteers take on the role of "townspeople of the 19th century" interpreting historic times to visitors and groups of all ages.

Anyone interested in learning more about becoming a Village volunteer may call the Village at 413-787-0136 weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Winter Vacation Program For Kids At Storowton Village

Children age seven through 12 can step into the 19th century and learn more about Early American Village life during Storowton Village Museum's winter vacation program titled "A Day Away in the Past." The program will be offered twice, February 18th or 19th, from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Children spending a day away in the past will dress in period costumes provided by the Village and try their hand at crafts such as candle dipping, basketmaking, and fireplace cooking. They will also participate in old fashioned games and experience the uniqueness of a one-room schoolhouse as they "take their lessons" from the "Schoolmistress."

The cost for the one-day program is \$25. To register or find out more about this unique historic program, call the Storowton Village Museum office at 413-787-0136.

ADVERTISER NEWS

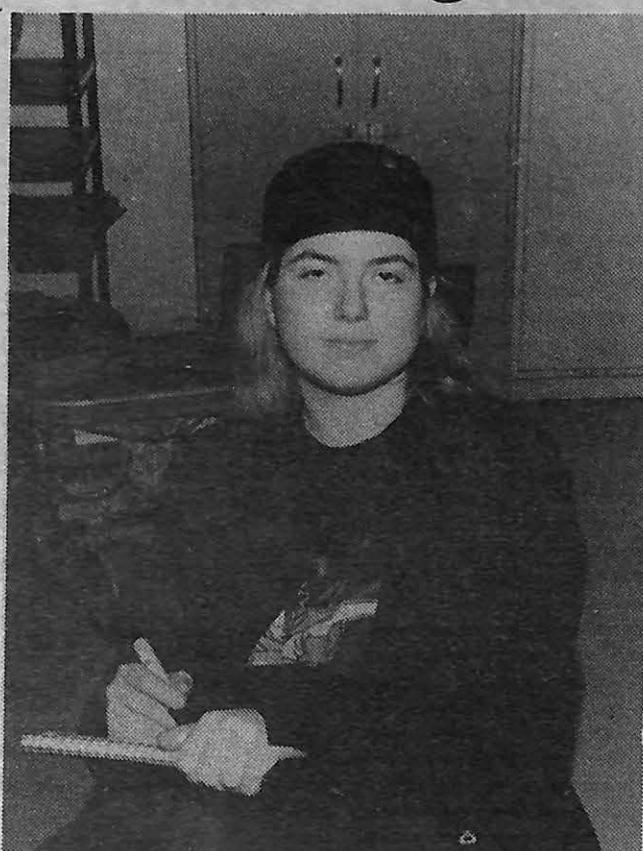
It's Girl Scout Cookie Time!



Life is good!

Pioneer Valley Girl Scout Council
Sale Dates: Jan. 14 - Feb. 4, 1999
(413) 525-4124

Congratulations To These Art Students...



JUNIOR JACQUELINE BOURDEAU, Agawam High's "Art Student of the Month" for December. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



SUZANNE DUDLEY, the latest eighth-grade "Art Student of the Month" at Agawam Junior High. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



JILLIAN KOS, the most recent seventh-grade "Art Student of the Month" at Agawam Junior High. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Registration Slated For Agawam Adult Ed.'s Winter Semester

Adult education registration will be held the 1st week of classes on Tuesday, January 19th, and Wednesday, January 20th, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Agawam High School Guidance Office.

The following is a list of courses and the nights they are being offered this semester:

Monday Classes:

- English 11
- English 12
- General Science
- World History
- EXCEL
- Algebra I
- Power Point/Access

Tuesday Class:

- Microsoft WORD II

Wednesday Classes:

- English 9
- English 10
- U.S. History
- Chemistry
- General Math
- Computer Concepts
- Microsoft WORD I
- Oil Painting

Classes will begin on Tuesday, January 19th, and run for 10 weeks, ending on or about April 1st. (Please note: the first Monday classes will meet on Tuesday, January 19th, because of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 18th.)

Each class will last from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., and all Agawam Adult Education classes are held at Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street, Agawam.

The tuition charge is \$70 per course and payable at the time of registration. No refunds will be given after the second class meeting. Tuition will be refunded if there is an insufficient number of students registered for a course(s). The administration reserves the right to cancel a course(s) for lack of registration.

Those persons interested in working toward a high school diploma should bring with them a transcript of any course work completed since ninth grade.

In addition to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, no classes will be held on Monday, February 15th, Tuesday, February 16th, and Wednesday, 17th, due to this week being the Agawam school system's mid-winter vacation.

In regard to notification of school closing, if Agawam schools are closed because of inclement weather, evening school is also canceled. Local radio stations will also announce any cancellations, and make-up days for inclement weather will be scheduled during the term.

If you have any questions regarding the Agawam Adult Education Program, call Paul C. Cavallo, Program Director, at 821-0522 or 821-0527.

Best local news...

The Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee

Proudly Presents Our

5TH ANNUAL DINNER DANCE



Chez Josef
Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, MA

Saturday, February 27th

6 PM - 1 AM

This year's "Inspiration for a Cure Award" recipient is

Dr. George Howard
of Baystate Medical Center

The proceeds from this event will benefit the very first
CAMP FOR KIDS WITH EPILEPSY
in Massachusetts!

Help us to help others understand!

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Wayne & Sue Hearn 789-1529
Diane Penna 786-9284
Rick & Kim Martel 786-1169
Donna Kerley 592-5305

**D.J. Ross
MacDonald**

**Exclusive
Silent Auction**

Tickets: \$25 per person



Sports

Maloni's 23 Points Bring Total To 1,345...

MALONI BREAKS SCORING RECORD AS AHS STORMS LANCERS

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

There were two things the faithful were looking for and anticipating Tuesday evening, January 12th, when the Longmeadow High girls' basketball team came calling at Kibbe Gym.

First, the Lancers came in at 5-1 and 2-0 in the Valley Wheel. Agawam was 8-0, 2-0. So, on paper at least, it looked to be a good matchup.

The other was senior Barbara Maloni becoming the all-time scoring leader in Agawam High basketball history (she needed six points to break Cyndi Fontanilles' 1994 record of 1,327). Fontanilles, the former Western Mass. Player of the Year and now starts for the American International College Lady Yellow Jackets, was in attendance, as were several of Maloni's teammates who are playing women's college hoop as well.

The home folks got one of two. Agawam won in a waltz, 41-25. Maloni, who would have 23 points for the game, went into the record book with 7:26 left in the first half on a bunny down the lane. That hoop came after she canned a deuce on the previous day, which had given the Brownies a 9-8 lead they would never give up.

This was not one of those usual Valley Wheel games featuring up-tempo offense and pressing, in-your-shirt defense, especially for Agawam. From the get-go, they seemed content to play Longmeadow's game on this night - slow down, set up, look for the percentage shot. For a time, things seemed to work in the Lancers' favor.

With 4:40 gone, they were up 8-2 on 3-7 from the floor as opposed to Agawam's 1-4. The Brownies also had seven turnovers at that point.

Trouble Brewing...

But trouble was brewing. Longmeadow's big center, Marisa Mosley, battling seniors Pia Bertone-Gross and Melissa Cote down low, got in early foul trouble. The 6'1" senior had to take a seat with three quick fouls. "Yeah, that was definitely a factor when she went out. That opened up their defense a bit," Maloni said.

She was right on. Cote (eight points) muscled one up from the low post. Maloni got a deuce off the offensive boards, then got fouled on the next play and hit one of two, making it 8-7, Lancers, with 7:19 gone. A bit later, Maloni got her 1,328th point. "No, I really wasn't thinking about it all that much. I was more concerned with beating Longmeadow because they are one of the teams I'm sure we're going to meet in the tournament," she said afterwards.

Without Mosley, Longmeadow was having serious trouble finding the bottom of the basket. The Brownie defense, which had switched to a 1-2-2 zone after some early man, was jamming the

lane and the low post, where the Lancers usually score the majority of their points. They managed to fight back, however, closing the gap to 11-10, Agawam, with 5:40 left.

Once again, Maloni took matters into her own hands. Two more layups put the Brownies up, 15-10. Then she got hacked trying for another bunny and went to the line for two. She hit the first one, then an official noticed some blood on Maloni's left leg and sent her to the bench to have it cleaned up. Sophomore Liz Steig came in for her and hit the back end, giving Agawam a 17-10 lead.

Agawam, still in its 1-2-2 zone and half-court offense, would run out the first half and take a 22-14 lead into the locker room.

Agawam Lowers The Boom

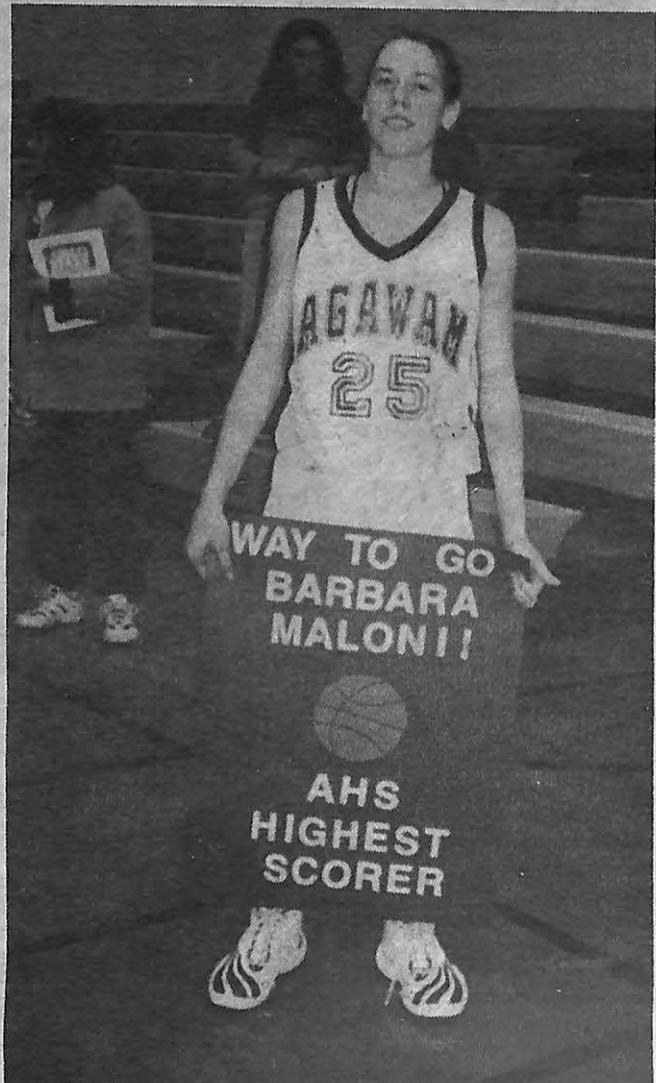
Agawam lowered the boom in the second 16 minutes. Maloni contributed six straight points, making it 28-14, Brownies, with 3:20 gone. Agawam was on a 9-0 run when the foul-plagued Mosley (seven points) came back in, but played less than the intimidating force she can be because of the fouls. Mosley managed to answer with a deuce at the 10-minute mark. At that point, however, Agawam was shooting 4-7 from the field as opposed to Longmeadow's 1-12.

Things would get worse for the visitors. The Agawam offensive set-up began looking for the cutter. Bertone-Gross, heading for the hole, took a nice feed from Maloni and jacked up the Agawam lead to 33-16. Maloni then laid one up with 8:42 left and the Brownies took control, 35-16, shooting 6-11 from the field while Longmeadow could manage only one 1-17. That 13-2 run effectively lanced the Lancers. Also playing another strong game was Cote. She had eight boards and played strong interior defense, a key for AHS as the second half of the season is about to begin.

The game wound down much as it had begun - conservative both on offense and defense. Agawam showed that even when they don't attack up-tempo and defend in a similar way, the outcome is still a victory. "I really didn't think we even played our best. But it was a win and that's a positive thing," Maloni admitted.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS: Maloni: 23 pts (10-17 fgs, 3-8 fts, 6 rebounds, 2 off, 1 block); Conte: 8 pts (4-10 fgs, 8 rebounds, 2 off, 1 block); Bertone Gross: 4 pts (2-5 fgs, 3 rebounds, 1 off); Gendron: 3 pts (1-3 fgs, 1-2 fts, 2 rebounds); Shannon: 2 pts (1-2 fgs, 1 rebound); Steig: 1 pt (1-1 fts).

SEE MALONI - Page 34...



WAY TO GO, BARBARA MALONI! Advertiser
News photo by Dave Rollins.

The Agawam Soccer Association
will be holding

FINAL SIGN-UPS
For
IN-TOWN



Spring SOCCER

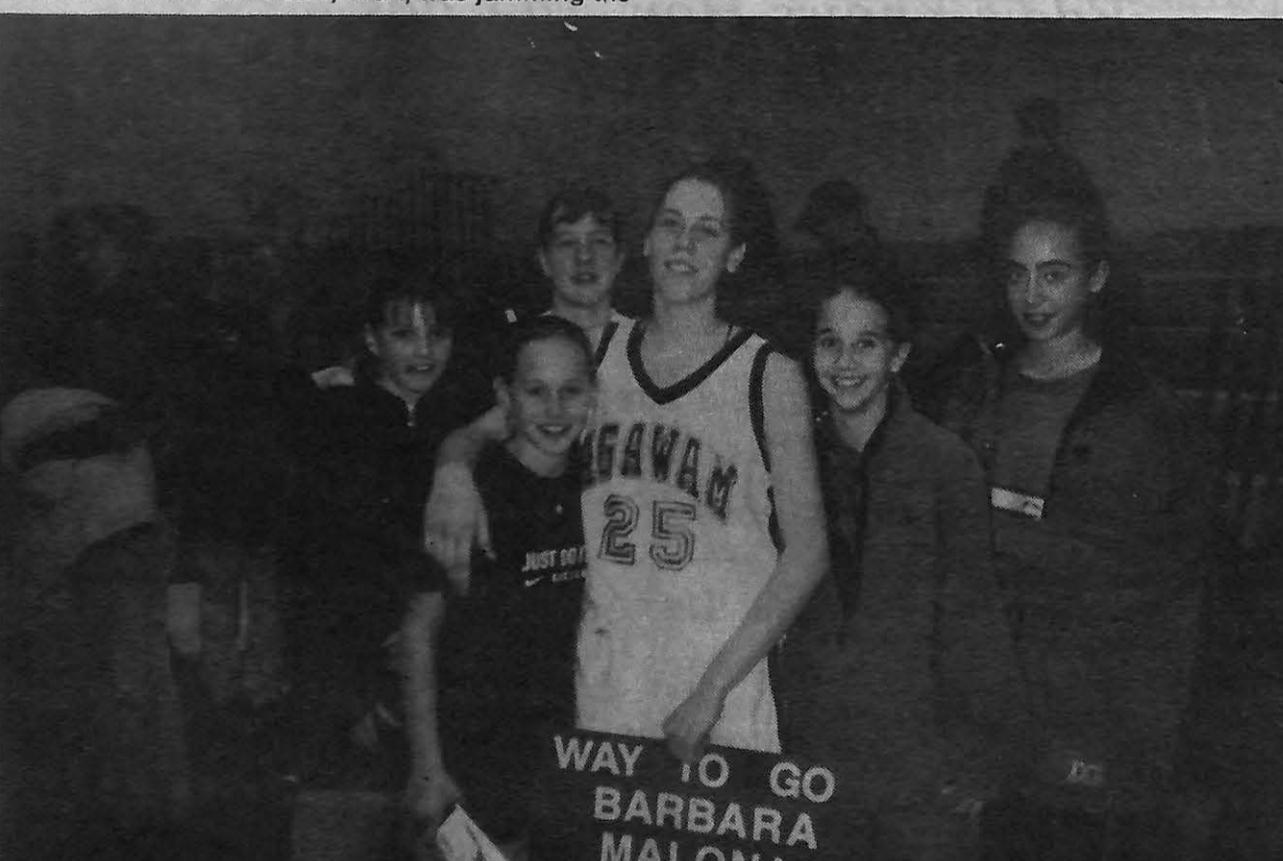
January 16th

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Agawam Public Library

**\$35.00 registration fee
per child**

\$85.00 Maximum per family

*Please Park in the
High School Lot!*



BARBARA MALONI, the new all-time scoring leader for Agawam High basketball, is surrounded by members of the Agawam Athletic Association's girls' 5th/6th grade Division I Suburban team - Lauren Peltier and Alyse Davilli (front) and Kara Powell, Susan Jenney, and Jessica Pokora. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.



ANOTHER LAYUP CLINIC. The majority of Barbara Maloni's points this season have come on drives to the hoop through traffic (photo left) and on easy layups (middle photo).

Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

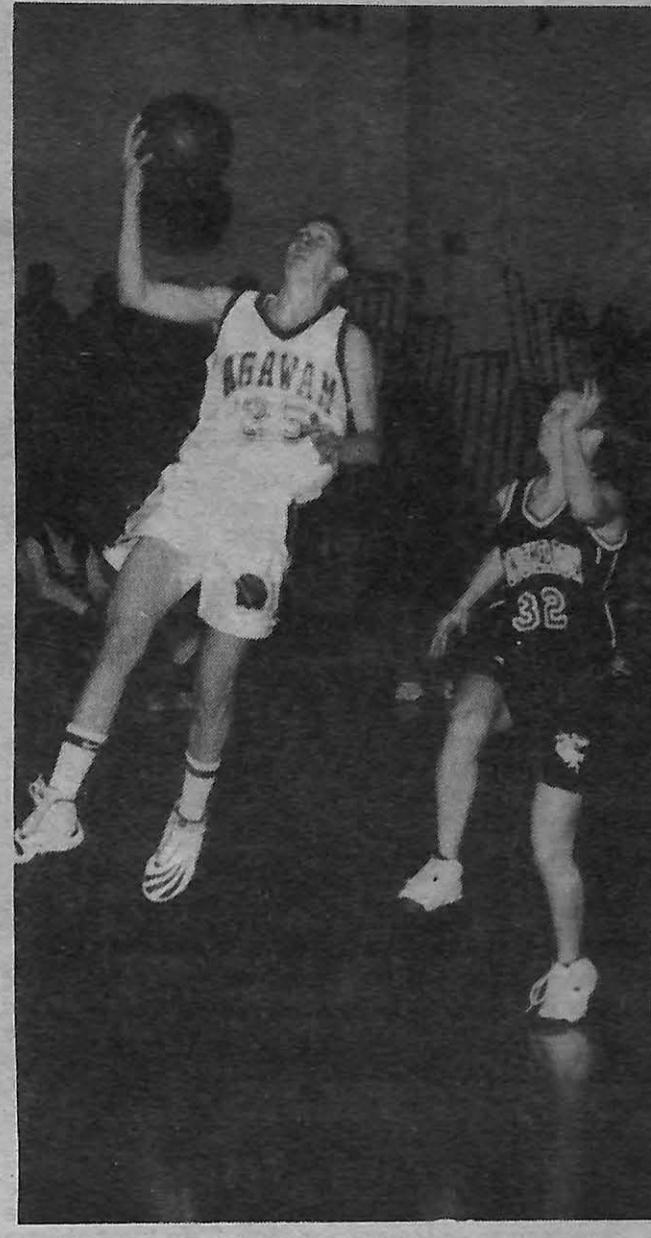
MALONI - from Page 33...

AGAWAM TEAM STATS: Fgs - 18-40 (45 percent); Fts - 5-11 (45 percent); Rebounds - 23, 6 off; Turnovers - 20, points allowed off turnovers, 3.

LONGMEADOW TEAM STATS: Fgs - 9-37, 1-3 (24 percent); Fts - 6-19 (31 percent); Rebounds - 27, 16 off; Turnovers - 21, 0 points allowed off TO's.

BROWNIE NOTE: Maloni now has 1,345 career points. At her current pace of 27.1 points a game, she'll end up with 1,616 at the end of the regular season. Through nine games, the Brownies have scored 501 points for a 55.6 a game average. They've given up 301 points (33.4 a game). The girls next play Friday night, January 15th at West Springfield.

The JV's lost to Longmeadow, 34-20. Alyson Nowell had a game-high seven points for the young Brownies.



MELISSA COTE shows her textbook shooting form during first half action vs. Longmeadow. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

NO ONE covers all the hometown sports like our Dave Rollins. Dave is another reason why you turn our pages every week - ADVERTISER NEWS!!!!!!



AGAWAM HIGH'S NUMBER 25 is encircled by Longmeadow Lancers during first half action. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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While Dianna DiStefano Continues To Mend...

After Successful Shoulder Surgery, Long Road To Recovery Begins For Gallagher

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

After Agawam High's outstanding running back Brian Gallagher dislocated his right shoulder in their season opening, 22-8 win over Greenfield High last September, it was only a matter of time before he went under the knife. It happened January 6th at Springfield's Mercy Hospital for surgery to repair the right shoulder, which he re-injured later in the season. It was elective surgery and Brian did the electing.

"I want to try and continue my football career somewhere. The people I talked to and the opinions I got convinced me it had to be done," he said a while back.

He checked in at 5:30 a.m. "They had to do some tests and get me ready," Brian explained. The surgery was scheduled two hours later, at 7:30 a.m.

"Yeah, I was definitely nervous," he admitted. "I was never put under before and that was a consideration because I'd be asleep and have no control over what was happening to me."

He explained that the first thing the operating team did when he was on the table was give him a nerve block. "It completely numbed my shoulder. I could have done a windmill with it and never felt a thing," Brian observed. He also said the reason this was done was because of the amount of anesthesia would be less. "I wouldn't sleep so deeply, which made things safer, according to them," he said.

If Bogart was in "The Big Sleep," Brian went into that "little sleep." "They just put the mask on my face and said 'breathe deeply a few times. I don't even remember going out,'" he said.

Two-Hour Operation

The operation lasted two hours. He woke up in the recovery room. "It was tough. I wanted to stay awake, but kept falling back to sleep. I'd wake up again and doze off again. My mom was there with me. She had a book. So, while I slept, she read," he remembered.

Brian spent the night at Mercy and the doctor came by the next day. "He said I could go home. He also said that it was a mess in there (the shoulder) and that he was surprised that it didn't pop out when I did everyday things," Brian said. "The doctor told me the operation was a success and now it's up to me."

Pain will be the tough thing now. "It can get pretty severe. They gave me medication for it and I've been taking it right along, except for Saturday night. The pills tend to mess up your temperature. So, I decided not to take any during that night so I could check my temperature in the morning. The pain was pretty bad," he noted.

There's not big cast or other contraption supporting the shoulder and arm, just a sling like he had before. He has to wear it for a month. "The doctor told me to take the arm out of the sling every hour or so and try to move it around. That way, the joint won't lock up on me," Brian explained.

Agawam High athletic trainer Dave Stratton wrote a treatise on shoulder problems such as Brian's, called 'Surgical Overview of Glenohumeral Dislocations.' "What Brian had was an anterior dislocation of the shoulder. It is the most common and usually happens in athletics," he said.

"Though I can't be 100 percent sure of what surgical procedure was used until I talk the Brian's doctor, it was probably one called the Bankart Procedure. It's highly successful 93 percent of the time and will allow the patient, after a rehabilitation, to resume normal athletic competition."

Stratton mentioned that the man who operated on Brian, Dr. Sumner Karas, is one of the most accomplished orthopedic surgeons anywhere.

"Now," Stratton stressed, "comes the hard part. Brian must be very serious about his rehabilitation, which will take six long months."

He'll have someone to commiserate with in that department. All-Western Mass. softball catcher Dianna DiStefano suffered an injury that, while not quite like Brian's, was just as severe. "When I was a freshman, I tore a tendon in the front of my right shoulder diving back to second base. I played with it until halfway through my sophomore year. It kept getting worse," she said.

How bad did Dianna's shoulder get? "Finally, I could barely throw and it hurt all the time. I went to the doctor and he looked at it, then with a gentle push of his thumb, he simply popped the



FOR AHS SENIOR BRIAN GALLAGHER,
the rehab process on his shoulder has just begun.

shoulder right out of its socket. That's when I made the decision to have surgery, because if I didn't, my athletic career would have been over. That was something I definitely didn't want." She had things put back together and now carries six titanium pins in her shoulder, anchoring the tendon. Dianna left the girls' soccer team in October to have her surgery so that the 1999 softball season would not be lost to her.

On The Road Called Rehabilitation

Dianna is now on that hard road called rehabilitation; the one Brian must travel if he wants to play again. "It's tough," Dianna admits.



FOR JUNIOR SOFTBALL STAR Dianna DiStefano, her shoulder continues to mend.

ted. She goes to rehab three or four times a week, for an hour each time. "It really hurts, doing all the exercises you have to do to get things back to the way they used to be. Sometimes it can make you cry. But I won't complain. I love playing sports too much to let it get me down."

According to Dianna, she is on track and should be ready for softball season this coming spring.

Her advice to Brian: "He has to keep the end results in mind. When it gets tough, and it will, remember why you're doing it. I guess, in the end, it's how bad you want to keep playing that will make you do whatever it takes," she smiled.

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Profile ... Dave Strole

Strole Emerges As Strong Inside Force For Agawam High Boys' Basketball

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Dave Strole is one of the leaders and a co-captain on the Agawam High boys' basketball team. Recently, the senior found time to talk about himself and his days at AHS.

Dave is 17 years-old. He'll be 18 on February 27th. He's 6'5" tall and tips the scales at 195 pounds. His four years of secondary education have been spent at Agawam High School.

Currently, his courseload includes advanced math, U.S. contemporary history, sociology, English 12, and multimedia. Dave has been on the Honor Roll every year at the school, is a member of the Renaissance Club, and hopes to shortly become a member of the National Honor Society.

He has two top teachers; Arthur Gage (physics) and Joseph Fitzgerald (history).

Right now, he's not sure where to attend college. But Boston University is his first choice.

Basketball is his sole sport at the school. He's been playing it since age six.

His most memorable sports moment came this season on December 21st against visiting Greenfield High. In that one, he scored 26 points and dominated the second half, bringing his team from a 30-23 deficit at intermission to a 59-52 victory.

As far as the rest of the season, he has this take: "It's been tough with the loss of Matt Albano, who's out for the season with a knee injury and Joe DiVirgilio, who left the team. We just have to stay together and good things will come."

Dave himself is injured. In the Commerce High game last Friday night, January 8th, he twisted his right ankle. They thought it might be broken. But x-rays ordered by AHS trainer Dave Stratton showed only a bad sprain. Dave's supposed to be out of action for three weeks. Currently, he's on crutches and taking pain killers. "I'm going to try and be back before then," he said, knowing how short-handed the team is and how much his 19 points a game are needed.

His favorite food is chicken parmesan, made by his mom.

Blue is his favorite color.

His car is a Dodge Viper. "I'd just like to own one."

Nomar Garciaparra of the Boston Red Sox is his top jock.

Boys' Basketball vs. Commerce...



AHS SENIOR DAVID STROLE

He likes to relax at his friends' houses.

Dave likes semi-preppy attire and casual wear. His favorite stores for duds like that are from Abercrombie and Fitch and American Eagle.

Hard rock is his taste in music. Pearl Jam and Metallica are two of his favorite bands.

"WWF, Monday Night Raw" is tops on the tube for him.

"White Men Can't Jump" is his favorite flick.

Suzanne is his mom. Dave is his dad. He has two sisters; Kristen, who's 14 and in the eighth grade, and Lindsey, nine, who is a third-grader. Both play basketball.

He says he looks up to his parents. "They are

always there when I need them," Dave said.

When his days at AHS are done, he'd like to be remembered as "A nice person who was respected, made an all-out effort, and tried my best."

Varsity basketball Coach Gary Grumoli said this of his center: "Dave Strole is an intelligent, hard-working kid who is a tremendous asset to this team. I think he has the ability to play college ball if the program and circumstances are right."



AGAWAM HIGH'S David Strole has emerged as a strong inside player for Western Mass. opponents to contend with.

Commerce Takes No Prisoners Against Undermanned AHS Boys' Basketball

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Last Friday evening, January 8th, Commerce High School of Springfield put on a basketball clinic on how to play defense as they rolled over Agawam High in boys' basketball, 70-38 at Kibbe gymnasium.

Actually, they might have overdone it slightly. They used a full-court press long after the issue was decided. Commerce Coach Gary Mindell, in the heat of a battle already over, obviously forgot that in sports, folks tend to possess long memories, and what goes around, comes around.

Locals Missing Valuable Starters

Agawam wasn't running on all cylinders. They were missing two valuable starters (senior forward Matt Albano and senior guard Joe DiVirgilio) and coming off two straight losses.

Commerce pressed from the get-go, disrupting the Agawam offense, which would have 12 first-half turnovers and 25 for the game. Commerce would score 20 points alone off those miscues.

Despite the pressure, Agawam managed some good ball movement early on. They just couldn't put the ball in the hole. The Red Raiders led, 10-2, with 5:04 gone. However, the Brownies, behind some inspired play courtesy of senior co-captain Mark Pedraza (nine points) fought back to make it 14-10, visitors, with 8:13 left.

A three by the Raiders' Kevin Crapps (15 points) moments later made it 17-10. Commerce continued to press and play an in-your-shirt, man-to-man in its halfcourt defense. Agawam countered by posting up co-captain Dave Strole (15 points) and tried to out-muscle the Raider defenders. Things were physical across the board, not only in

the paint, with bodies banging off each other like balls on a pool table break shot.

With 3:32 to play, the numbers were not in the Brownies' favor. They were shooting 6-15 from the field and had nine turnovers. Commerce, a team of pure gunners (they would have 35 first-half shots to the Brownies' 17) was 11-29 and showed only one turnover.

Agawam, in an attempt to find an answer, employed a full-court press of its own at the 2:19 mark. They were down at the time, 29-18, and would fall back even further, 33-18, with a minute left. In a half that was all up-tempo (nothing new in Western Mass. boys' basketball), Commerce led, 35-20, at the buzzer.

The Red Raiders started the second 16 minutes with a three-pointer 15 seconds in. A deuce off a turnover made it 40-20 without even a minute gone. A second Brownie turnover saw the Commerce lead swell to 42-20. Another cough-up saw 44-20, Raiders, on the board with 1:03 gone.

Four quick turnovers and eight points due to them, had Brownie Coach Gary Grumoli yell for a timeout. Agawam came back in and fell back, 48-20.

Raiders Just Too Quick

The Red Raiders, who came into the game at 6-2 and are one of the favorites in the tough Valley League, were just too quick. There were four minutes off the clock and they were 7-11 from the field. Agawam had yet to score, going 0-4. Commerce led, 50-20. Agawam got its first second-half point on a foul shot by Joe Stellato (five points) at the 11:50 mark.

By now, Agawam would play as tough as it

could for the duration, with the outcome long decided. Yet Commerce, perhaps taking a page out of the excesses of a basketball book, continued with the full-court pressure.

Agawam went into a 1-2-2 zone at 4:57, then suffered perhaps the biggest blow of the season with 4:27 left. Strole went down under the Raider hoop and lay on the floor, clutching his right ankle. "I went up for a rebound and came down on someone's foot, twisting my foot sideways," he said.

Grumoli, who will have to dip very deep into his bench now, said, "That's the kind of season it has been, losing kid after kid. But they're a quality group. They'll hang in there."

Commerce finally canned the press with four minutes left. Agawam's record fell to 2-5.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS: Strole - 15 points (6-14 fgs, 3-4 fts, 9 rebs, 2 off, 1 blk); Pedraza - 9 points (3-6 fgs, 3-4 fts, 3 rebs, 1 off); Stellato - 6 points (2-4 fgs, including a 3, 1-2 fts); Federico - 2 points (0-4 fgs, 2-2 fts); Martucci - 2 points (1-1 fgs, 1 reb); Plamondon - 2 pts (1-1 fgs); Bodurtha - 2 points (2-2 fts, 1 reb).

AGAWAM TEAM STATS: Field goals - 13-35, 1-3 (37 percent); free throws - 11-17 (64 percent); rebounds - 21, 6 off; turnovers - 25, points allowed off turnovers - 20.

COMMERCE TEAM STATS: Field goals - 31-66, 4-3's (46 percent); free throws - 4-15 (46 percent); rebounds - 26, 15 off; turnovers - 10, no points allowed.

JV's: The Brownie JV's lost to the Raider kids, 66-30. Adam Ellsworth had 11 for Agawam.

SPORTS EDITOR DAVE ROLLINS' weekly coverage of AHS sports is just one more reason why you turn our pages...

LeClaire's Third Period Tally Helps AHS Hockey Survive Greenies, 3-2

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

After a disappointing 9-6 loss the night before to Holyoke High and an earlier 4-4 tie against Longmeadow (also frustrating), the Agawam High hockey team came back last Thursday evening and beat Greenfield, 3-2.

They say a win is a win is a win. But Brownie Coach Fran Pycko didn't exactly see it that way. "Our mental mistakes are at an all-time high. We're not playing smart. We have to get some mental toughness. And I'm not talking hitting and fighting. I'm talking some downright mental toughness," he pointed out in no uncertain terms.

Agawam started with a line centered by Tony Kosinski with high scoring (15 goals going in) Tony LeClaire and freshman Dennis Walters on the wings. The defenders were Adam Sprague and Brian Gilhooley.

As is usually the case with Agawam hockey, they started out fast. The Green Wave, coming in at 0-6-0, hustled to keep up. With 2:50 gone, the Brownie hustle paid off. Walters whacked one from low on the left wing after receiving a pass from Josh Sprague, which was deflected home by Jay Malanson, making it 1-0, Agawam.

First Of Five Power Plays

A Greenfield penalty at the 11:20 mark gave Agawam the first of five power plays it would get in the game. Despite some good play by Brian Pagella and Josh Sprague, the Wave killed off the infraction.

Another Greenfield penalty with 8:22 to go gave the Brownies their second power play. Again, they couldn't cash in (nor did they on the other three). One thing they had been doing, however, was playing some tight defense.

With 7:58 left, Greenfield didn't have a shot on Agawam goalie Mike Schmidt. Credit Matt Pereira, Dave Gusek, and Pagella for the effort.

Greenfield started to put some pressure on the Brownies with 4:30 to go after it managed a couple shots on net. An Agawam mistake cost them a score with 50 seconds to play in period one. A rush by Mike Kosinski, Andy Radwanski, and Pereira saw Agawam's defense get caught too far up ice. The Wave forwards got behind them and Tim Constantine drove it home for a 1-1 tie at the 14:18 mark.

What happened next must have had Pycko looking for some necks to wring. Agawam failed to clear a dump-in off the face-off. Pat Smith drove the puck past Schmidt to lead at the buzzer, giving Greenfield a stunning 2-1 lead. Agawam had nine first-period shots on goal. Greenfield managed five.

Greenfield was an inspired club to start the second 15 minutes. Even a penalty 1:47 in didn't deflate their balloon as they drove for another score. Agawam had a couple chances, too.

At the 2:21 mark, with the man advantage, AHS assaulted the Greenfield net, knocked it off its posts, and the puck slid in. But the officials ruled the net came off before the puck went over the goal line. And at the three-minute mark, Gilhooley fed Radwanski right in front. But the save was made.

With 10:20 left, Radwanski, Malanson, and Pagella buzzed the Greenfield net. The Greenfield defenders were up to it. Greenfield came back strong after that onslaught. Jeremy Jarvis had a point-blank opportunity a minute later, but was robbed on a great pad save by Schmidt.

Brownies Tie It Up

The Brownies, perhaps inspired or just plain lucky, got the game-tying goal with 9:35 left. The puck ricocheted off Pagella's chest 10 feet outside the right crease and dribbled in. Malanson got the assist.

The Brownies broke the tie less than a minute later. LeClaire got his 16th goal at the 8:52 mark - a shot from the right crease, with the assist going to Gusek. It would stay 3-2 for the remainder of the second period. The Brownies had five shots on goal. Greenfield had eight.

Agawam held on in the third for the win, even though it had a scary moment with 2:13 left. It came after Radwanski walked into the Wave crease from the right point and tried to stuff it in. He got stopped in the goal mouth and got a penalty for his troubles. For 1:30, to the 40 second mark, the Brownies were a man short. Malanson,

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HIGH-SCORING SOPHOMORE TONY LECLAIRE leads Agawam High hockey in scoring with 16 goals at presstime. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Pagella, Adam Sprague, and Gilhooley were called upon to kill the penalty. Malanson was all over the place.

Greenfield pulled its goalie with 15 seconds left, giving them a six-skaters-to-four advantage. The Brownies grimly hung on for the victory, sending them to 4-4-1. Agawam ended up with a total of 21 shots on net. The Wave registered 16.

The Brownies next play Thursday, January 14th against Fay Division foe East Longmeadow. The Brownies are now 3-0 in the Fay Division.



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Bachini Laments About Removal As Golf Coach

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

There's an old axiom in sport - coaches are hired to be fired. That's true, to a point. Witness the NFL this season or baseball any season where coaches are fired sometimes even before the All-Star game. Hockey and basketball are much the same way. It happens in college athletics all the time as well. After all, wins translate into money and money makes the pro and college worlds go 'round.

Money is no issue at the high school level, or at least it shouldn't be. Yet firings, or dismissals as they are called, go on all the time. Sometimes they are vague and at times make no sense, especially when good coaches are, many times, tough to find and the ones that are good enough, put the welfare of the kids they coach before any consideration.

Take Agawam High School golf Coach Paul Bachini, a 25-year physical education teacher in the school system and a coach for 34 seasons in various sports. Golf, however, was his first love.

From 1992 to 1998, his AHS golf teams rang up 127 wins and 17 losses. They grabbed six Valley Wheel championships and two second-place finishes, eight top-four finishes at the Western Mass. Championships, and four top-five finishes at the State Tournament. In all his time as a coach, of anything, there was never any blemish on his record. Now, he's being told it's over by Athletic Director Kathy McSweeney.

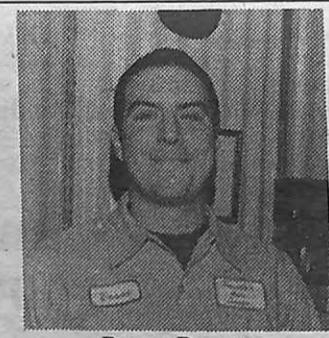
A Strange Story

How his impending demise came about regarding golf is a strange story, indeed. It all started back on September 30th of last year. During a match that day against Sci-Tech at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course, two Agawam police detectives showed up. They wanted to talk to one of Bachini's golfers, who was there at the time, practicing. Also there were the kid's parents.

"I thought nothing more of it. It wasn't my place to be an advocate because the kid's parents were there. I didn't know why they wanted to talk to him, nor would they have told me anyway," he said.

The next day, October 1st, McSweeney sought out Bachini, according to him. "She asked me why the police were at the match and why I hadn't informed her of their presence. And I told her I didn't think it was of any consequence," Bachini said. Then, the Athletic Director informed the coach that because she hadn't been notified, he was going to get a letter of reprimand for his actions, or lack thereof.

SEE BACHINI - Page 38...



Bruno Parrotta

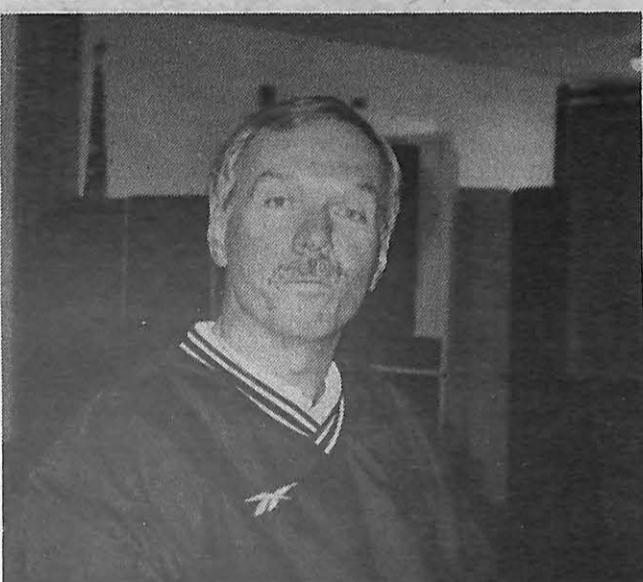
BACHINI - from Page 37...

Bachini told us the AD went on to say that the detective incident wasn't the only time he hadn't informed her of a situation. It seems last season the coach dismissed a kid from the team and supposedly didn't tell her. "She's right. I didn't tell her at the time I let him go. But I did inform her of my actions at the end of the golf year. Nothing more was said and it didn't come up, at least not until October 1st. She never told me at the time I told her of the kid's dismissal that if I didn't inform her of such situations, whatever they may be, I would receive a letter."

The coach was given that letter at an October 9th meeting at the High School, attended by himself, McSweeney, and Principal Joseph Zabielski. After that, he informed his union reps from the Agawam Education Association of the letter of reprimand and expressed his feelings that he did not deserve one.

Grievance Is Filed

The coach then filed a grievance. On November 5th, he took the first step in the grievance protocol, sitting down with McSweeney, Zabielski, and his union rep to discuss the letter. After the meeting, Bachini said Zabielski let the letter stand.



LONG-TIME AGAWAM HIGH GOLF COACH Paul Bachini will not be reappointed to that post by the School Department.

"My contention was this," Bachini said. "The letter should never have been tendered to me because Ms. McSweeney failed to follow the just cause procedure clause in our contract, which says an employee is allowed one reprimand before being given the letter. I never got that first reprimand. In other words, it's a warning first if something happens. If something happens again, then it's the letter. In my case, that chain of procedure did not happen," Bachini stated.

The second step in the process saw things go up to the Superintendent of Schools Frank Ameruoso, who also let the letter stand.

The hammer came down on December 8th when Bachini learned that he would not be rehired as the AHS golf coach. Verification came on December 18th when he was given a copy of his evaluation. It was quite different from the one he received the previous year, which had been

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"This time, there were a number of downgrades having to do with my communication with the AD. They obviously were enough to give me the gate," Bachini noted.

On Tuesday evening, January 12th, a transcript of a grievance meeting between Bachini, his union reps, Ameruoso, Assistant Superintendent Donald Charest, and School Committee Attorney John Teahan went to the School Committee. The committee was supposed to hear about the matter in executive session. The committee, under Education Reform, cannot reinstate Bachini. Only Ameruoso has that authority. Bachini promised to seek arbitration if he is not reappointed as the school's varsity golf coach.

As for the communication problems cited against him, the coach had this to say, "During the eight years the current AD has been at Agawam, my relationship with her has always been a professional one. Her only concern with my performance prior to this season has been my checking of daily attendance and daily eligibility of athletes. I was under the impression that the problem had been resolved."

Bachini's point is this. He has to be at golf practice at 2:15 p.m. Granger Elementary School,

where he works, gets out at 2:10 p.m. He said simple logistics indicate that a trip to the High School for paperwork and then down to the golf course cannot be done in five minutes. "If forced to choose between supervising my team at an off-site practice facility or going to the High School to check attendance sheets, I will choose supervision every time. Any prudent adult would do the same," Bachini said.

The coach suggested that the attendance sheets be faxed to Granger. According to him, the AD refused that solution to the problem. He suggested a junior varsity coach be assigned to the team, but said this request was not granted.

He also noted something else. According to him, because coaching contracts are for one year only, an athletic director can, when the season is over, inform the coach that he/she will be dismissed, without giving any reason whatsoever.

"It is very disappointing to be told that a coach's relationship with the athletic director is more important than his relationship with his athletes, especially to the point that it can cost him his job," Bachini said.

When called, the Athletic Director declined comment about Bachini's situation.

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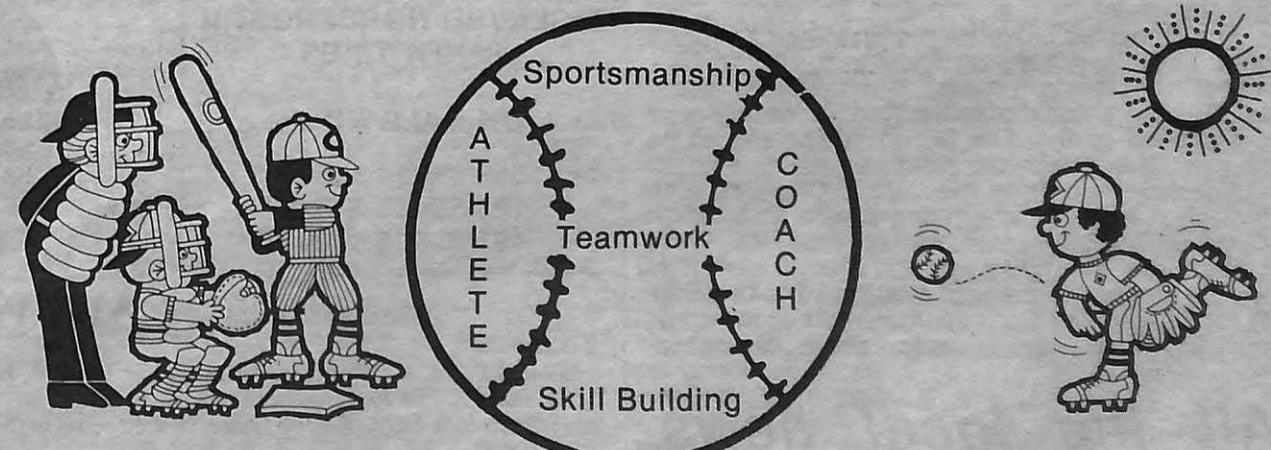
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FORMER AGAWAM HIGH ALL-AMERICAN SOCCER PLAYER Kristen Patterson enjoyed a spectacular freshman season for the American International College Lady Yellow Jackets. She was named Northeast-10 "Freshman of the Year" and was named Second Team Division II All-New England. She is currently the Lady Yellow Jackets' point guard on the varsity basketball team.

After Spectacular Frosh Soccer Season, Patterson Now Shines On AIC Hardwood

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For those of you who thought former Agawam High three-sport standout Kristen Patterson might take time to adjust to college athletics - think again. She has gone from being a former Brownie star to a present and future star as a Lady Yellow Jacket at American International College.

Her first stop was soccer. Patterson stepped right in, helping the team to their best record (15-4) in the 14-year history of the program. It was a slate good enough to get their first-ever appearance in the NCAA Division II Tournament. It was the luck of the draw, however, that they met four-time Division II Champion Franklin Pierce of Rindge, New Hampshire in the first round and came away on the short end of a 4-1 loss.

More Honors Along The Way

Along the way, she picked up more honors to put up there on the mantle - Northeast-10 Freshman of the Year, Northeast-10 Conference First Team, and Northeast-10 Weekly Honor Roll (11/9). Patterson also won a spot on the second team of the Division II 1998 National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-New England

Soccer Team. She was the only freshman on either the first or second squads.

Her statistics were impressive considering her tender years and the higher level of competition she had to face - 10 goals and 10 assists for 30 points (fourth highest on the team); three game-winning goals; 19 starts in 19 games.

Did Patterson think she'd experience such success so early in her college soccer career? "No, I didn't expect it. But, I've always worked hard at whatever level, so it's continuing to pay off," she smiled.

She admitted, though, that the transition for her from high school to college wasn't that hard. "I was a forward then and I am now. They asked the same thing; be aggressive, pass, and score goals. I've always done those things."

Patterson also noted that the mental and physical aspects in high school and college aren't that much different. "Both are important at any level. You play up to your physical ability and don't allow anyone or any situation to intimidate you," she said.

Training for college soccer is also about the same as it was in high school. "You are always working on staying in the best shape possible as well as ball skills and an understanding of the game," she pointed out.

Making Her Mark In Basketball

Though the women's basketball season is barely half over, Patterson is making her mark there as well. At presstime, the Lady Yellow Jackets have a record of 10-4. Patterson, a former 1,000-point scorer and perennial All-Western Mass. point guard at AHS in that sport (which is her favorite), is averaging 7.6 points a contest and has had high-point games of 18 last week against Stonehill, 16 against Bentley, and 15 in a game with Philadelphia College. She got a starter's job in the seventh game of the season, an 85-72 win over Bryant College.

Last week, she scored 13 in a road win over St. Anselm's. She also has 11 three-point field goals. Patterson is playing alongside another former AHS great and 1,000-point scorer, Cyndi Fontanilles (9.5 ppg).

Jason Votzakis Up & Running On All Cylinders For WSC Football

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For three years, Agawam's Jason Votzakis terrorized Western Mass. high school football defenders. During that time, he ran for 3,592 yards and 43 touchdowns, leading all Western Mass. runners with 21 as a junior. He was All-Western Mass. as a junior and senior, All-League three times, and was named as the team's outstanding sophomore in 1993 and most outstanding senior back as a senior, along with the team's MVP award. Yes, they were very good years.

He was recruited by many teams in the area and decided on AIC. That was a slight glitch on the radarscope, for him, so he transferred to Westfield State College and once again the former Brownie was up and running.

Impressive Numbers

Last football season, as a junior, Votzakis put up some impressive numbers for the 5-5 Owls. In 10 games, he rushed for 1,240 yards (the second highest total in the school's history and 24th best among the nation's Division III runners) on 266 carries and scored four touchdowns. His longest run was a 67-yard scamper for a score against WNEC.

For his efforts, Votzakis was named Offensive Player of the Year at Westfield State and was an Honorable Mention on the 14-team New England Football Conference All-Conference Team.

He was also in the Owls' picture the year before, as a sophomore, rushing for 986 yards and nine touchdowns.

As we mentioned, his only sidestep was the AIC

deal. He made the practice squad as a freshman. But there was something about the picture with the Yellow Jackets that was not exactly rosy. "It wasn't for me. They recruited so many backs and I couldn't see doing no duty or part-time duty until I got a legitimate shot to start as a senior. So, I left after the first semester," he noted.

He transferred to Westfield State in the spring of 1996 and became a second semester freshman and a reserve running back behind Westfield's all-time leading rusher (4,000-plus career yards), Tim Lightfoot. But he knew it was only a matter of time. "I could play at that level, play well and be an impact player," he said. When Lightfoot graduated in the spring of 1997, Votzakis stepped in.

Steve Marino has been the Owls' head coach for nine seasons and had high praise for the former Brownie. "Jason fits in well with us. He earned the respect of his teammates. He does some serious work in the weight room. Jason had paid the price."

Votzakis is 5'9" and 205 pounds, about 10 more pounds than he was in high school. "He's a pure running back who can run through tackles and make people miss," Marino noted. "He has 4-5 speed, which definitely helps him in the open field," he added.

Both are optimistic about next season. The team only lost a handful of starters and have an experienced group of veterans coming back. Votzakis will be one of them.



FORMER AHS RUSHING CHAMP Jason Votzakis recently completed an outstanding season for the Westfield State Owls.

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Whip's Wildcats	1	0	0	2
Wood	0	1	0	0
Brookside	0	1	0	0
Holy Cross	0	1	0	0
Voyagers	0	1	0	0
10 BOYS				
Games & Lanes	1	0	0	2
Lightning	1	0	0	2
Yellow Jackets	0	1	0	0
West Side	0	1	0	0
12-13 GIRLS				
Brookside	0	0	1	1
Comets	0	0	1	1
Palmer Galaxy	0	0	1	1
Unbelievables	0	0	1	1
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS				
Red Devils	1	0	0	2
Agawam (Marsili)	0	0	1	1
West Side	0	0	1	1
Cosmos	0	1	0	0

* * *

For copies of his photos in this edition, please contact AAN photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053. Jack has all the negatives and will be more than happy to help you...

* * *



There's New Hope About Stroke.

Today the outlook for stroke survivors is better than ever. New drugs are reducing the injury from stroke. And new rehabilitation procedures are helping people regain lost skills. But the key is still to get help fast. And to do that, you must

Know the Warning Signs

- Sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg on one side of the body.
- Sudden dimness or loss of vision, particularly in only one eye.
- Loss of speech, or trouble talking or understanding speech.
- Sudden severe headaches with no apparent cause.
- Unexplained dizziness, unsteadiness or sudden falls, especially along with any of the previous symptoms.

If you have any of the warning signs, don't wait! See a doctor right away!

As Round Two Heads Into '99...

Boston College Has Four-Game Lead In Tri-Parish Bowling

On Monday, January 4th, the Tri-Parish Bowling League began the new year with no real surprises. In other words, Boston College is still the round-two frontrunner.

At the end of this particular evening, BC (22-6) retained a comfortable, four-game lead over its nearest competitor, St. Mary's (18-10). Meanwhile, third-place Holy Cross (17-11) is breathing down St. Mary's neck.

St. Louis is in fourth place with its 15-13 record, followed by Georgetown (14-14), Fordham (12-16), Notre Dame (12-16), St. Anselm (12-16), Catholic University (10-18), and St. Michael's, which is dead-last in the league with a lowly 9-19 record. (Maybe St. Mike's teammates will start feeling a little better once their "wins" reach double digits.)

On the first Monday of 1999, BILL "Black And Blue" GRAY shined as the men's leading scorer with a 120 single string and a 353 triple string. "Richy" RICH SNYDER (135 single, 348 triple) was the runner-up, followed by GLENN "Not Sam" ADAMS (131, 347), "Jolly" OLLY MULDREW (113, 332), "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK (120, 331), RON "The Don" MENARD (107, 310), and "Sugar" RAY SCOTT (115, 307).

"The Mighty" DEB POIRIER ended 1998 as the top ladies' roller of the evening, and she repeated this effort with a 124 single string and a 329 triple string on January 4th. "Go With The" FLO ROCHFORD (124 single, 314 triple) was also impressive on this night and wound up in second.

The other high-rolling women were "Terrible" TERRY CERPOVICZ (119, 313), "Lean And Mean" JEAN BUONICONTI (111, 303), "Mischievous" MAUREEN LYNCSKY (111, 302), MARY "Not Tyler Moore" THOMAS (113, 297), and JAN "Not The Man" FULLER (104, 296).

* * *

Our classified ads will bring you FAST, FAST results...

* * *

American Lung Assoc. Has "Ski Privilege Book" For This Season

The American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts has unveiled its new and improved "Ski Privilege Book" for the 1998-99 ski season, offering free and discounted skiing at over a dozen ski resorts in Western Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. Discounts are also available at eight area ski shops on ski merchandise and ski tune-ups.

For \$39, the holder of the "Ski Privilege Book" can ski one time at each resort either free or at a discount, Monday through Friday. The book includes free pass deals, buy-one-get-one-free deals, and other discounts on ski passes and merchandise.

Participating Western Massachusetts ski areas are: Berkshire East, Blandford, Bousquet, Butter-nut, Catamount, Jiminy Peak, Otis Ridge, and Wachusett Mountain. Participating Connecticut and New Hampshire areas are: Mt. Southington, Powder Ridge, Mohawk Mountain, Woodbury, Cedar Brook, and Black Mountain Ski Area.

Discounts on merchandise and tune-ups are available in Western Massachusetts at the Colorado Ski Outlet, Competitive Edge, Wildwater Outfitters, and the Ski-In. Other discounts are available at Connecticut shops as well.

One-hundred percent of funds raised through the "Ski Privilege Book" will help the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts' community education and research programs in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire Counties.

For more information or to order the "Ski Privilege Book," please call the American Lung Association at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA.

* * * * *

OUR OFFICE WILL BE OPEN on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Monday, January 18th). We appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

* * * * *

Your First Choice

For College Courses at Agawam High School

Taking courses at Springfield Technical Community College is not limited to the Armory Square campus. Several of STCC's most popular courses will be offered on Tuesday evenings for your convenience at Agawam High School.

Classes

Microcomputer Applications

for Windows 1	(3 credits)
Visual Basic 1	(4 credits)
Principles of Management	(3 credits)
English Composition 1	(3 credits)
Elementary Spanish 2	(3 credits)
Introduction to Sociology	(3 credits)
Classes are held from 6:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. (3 credits) or 6:00 to 9:45 p.m. (4 credits)	

Semester Schedule

Classes begin on Tuesday, January 26, and end on May 11.

For further information, please call STCC Continuing Education at 781-1315.

Registration

You may register at Agawam High School from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. only on Tuesday, January 26, pending seat availability.

You may register now at the main campus, in person, by phone, or by fax; call 781-1315. Hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to noon. We're closed on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are accepted.

Main Campus

Over 140 different credit courses are offered in STCC's Evening and Weekend College Program, including a 4:00 p.m. session and Saturday morning classes. Classes lead to a wide variety of associate degree and certificate programs. Several classes are offered over the Internet for students with Internet access. For information see www.stcc.mass.edu/dce



SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

New General Manager Appointed At Riverside

Veteran Theme Park Manager To Head New England Theme Park

A 16-year theme park veteran is the new general manager of Riverside Park. The announcement was made by Premier Parks, the parent company of Riverside Park. Gary Story, Premier Parks' president and chief operating officer, named Timothy Black the new general manager effective immediately.

Black comes to Riverside from another Premier property, Wyandot Lake Theme Park in Columbus, Ohio, where he was General Manager. His experience includes senior positions at Wyandot Lake, Six Flags Fiesta Texas, Frontier City and White WaterBay, three major regional theme parks.

"Vital to our goal of building Riverside into a world class regional park for the New England area is having an experienced general manager in place at the Park. Tim's expertise, experience, and creativity will be invaluable to us as we continue to move forward with our short- and long-term capital plans and programs," Story said.

In addition to his operations responsibilities, Black will oversee the massive construction project that began in 1996 after Premier acquired the New England Park. Upgrades and improvements to the Park have included over \$55 million in new rides, shows, and attractions during the last two seasons. Plans for the 1999 season's new improvements will be announced within the next month.

Black replaces Bill Muirhead, who recently left Riverside to become General Manager of Riverside's sister Park, Six Flags Great Adventure in New Jersey. "Riverside Park and Western Massachusetts will benefit from the experience and dedication that Tim brings to the Park," Muirhead stated. "His operational expertise and passion for the theme park industry will ensure that Riverside continues to offer a first-class and entertaining family experience," Muirhead added.

"Although I will be heading the operations in New Jersey, my commitment to Riverside remains strong. Tim and I will continue to work with city and state officials on our collaborative efforts to build a world-class entertainment facility and resolve all remaining traffic and capacity issues," Muirhead emphasized.

Riverside Park is owned by Premier Parks, Inc., the world's largest regional theme park company with 31 parks, including parks serving nine of the 10 largest metropolitan areas in the United States and six locations in Europe. The company annually hosts nearly 40 million guests. A publicly held corporation with corporate offices in New York City and Oklahoma City, Premier Parks trades on the NYSE under the symbol: PKS.

AHS Wrestling Boosters Slate Pancake Breakfast

The Agawam High School Wrestling Booster Club will be sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, January 17th at the Italian Sporting Club, 349 Cooper Street, Agawam.

Breakfast will be served from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Suggested donations are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children two through 12. Children under two are free.

Proceeds from the breakfast will be used to support the club's scholarship fund and senior awards.

For tickets, call Kevin Quirk at 789-3274 or Tim Murphy at 786-4619. Tickets will be available at the door.

Use your brain to save your brain from a stroke.

Learn to call 911 quickly if you have one or more symptoms of stroke, like numbness in one side of the face or one limb, sudden dimness or loss of vision, loss of speech, sudden severe headache or dizziness along with the above signs. Call the AHA's Stroke Connection at 1-800-553-6321 to learn more about stroke symptoms or visit <http://www.amhrt.org> on the World Wide Web.

American Heart Association
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

**Outdoors
New
England**

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Winter Is Definitely Here!!!

It has finally happened! Winter has arrived with an icy cold blast, and frozen most of the lakes and ponds. This is the mid-winter blessing that all of us "solid water" fishermen have been waiting for.

Safe ice can be found on some of the smaller ponds in the valley, but conditions are more certain in the Berkshires, where longer periods of cold temperatures have yielded thicker ice. It will take some extended cold to produce thick ice on some of the bodies of water locally.

A healthy fall stocking of trout, along with native populations of pan fish and bass, should keep the flags popping up with fairly good consistency. Once the ice is safe, perch jerkers at locations like the Oxbow should have a field day with large jack perch and crappie.

For those of us who like to jig, a wide assortment of ice jigs and ice spoons are available. As for myself, I like to dig into my shad dart box and use smaller darts of various color combinations. The addition of a mousie or grub seems to add the right touch of attraction for most pan fish.

If you run out of grubs or meal worms, a perch eye added to the hook seems to work quite well. Of course, if you are practicing catch-and-release, this is probably not an especially good idea, at least as far as the perch is concerned.

The addition of an Uncle Josh mini Ripple Rind is another deadly attractant. Unlike plastic twister tails that stiffen up in cold water and lose some of their action, the thin pork rind twister remains supple and will perform quite well.

Here is a great tip for first-time users of power augers who often get a cold, wet awakening to the laws of physics and fluid dynamics. If you are using that new power auger for the first time since Santa left it under the tree, be aware that the screw auger not only lifts ice chips from the hole, but it also lifts and disperses the ice cold water that floods the hole when you break through.

If the auger is still spinning when you lift it from the hole, an icy cold shower will result. A good solution to the "soaked from the waist down" problem lies in prevention. A bib style set of rain pants worn over your clothes will keep the water from reaching you. Make sure that the rain pants are not tucked into the top of your boots, but hang down over your boots. That way, water will not run down into your boots.

A NEW DEPTH FINDER FOR ICE FISHERMEN

StrikeMaster has introduced the new Polar Vision hand-held sonar in a unit that is about the size and shape of a standard flashlight.

This unit is designed to be placed against the surface of the ice and you just push a button to read the depth on the digital readout. It has 850 watts of power and the LCD display is backlit for easy nighttime use.

It will read depths from three feet to 199 feet, and is small enough to fit into your jacket pocket! Weighing in at only 1½ pounds, the unit is waterproof and floats. The 200 kHz transducer has a 15-degree transducer beam and is reported to be accurate to 1.25 inches.

This is an invaluable tool for finding those dropoffs, points, humps, and bars that will serve as fish-holding structure. It will save a lot of work versus drilling and checking depth with a drop weight.

Just clear away the snow from the ice surface, squirt a little water on the surface of the ice, push a button and read the depth. Nothing could be easier. Since structure is the key to finding fish year-round, this is a valuable tool in the arsenal for the modern ice fisherman. I think it would also be a great tool for the small-boat angler who uses a canoe or rents a fishing boat for the day.

WINTER COD TRIP

Anyone interested in stretching a line on some big cod can give me a call or drop me a line, either at home or in care of *The Advertiser News*. Sounds like a good way (and the only way) to enjoy some open-water fishing, without traveling to the deep south.

Let me know if you are interested, and I will set up a trip. Some of the boats offer heated cabins, heated seats, and rails. I'm convinced! Let's do it! (Of course, there are certain things — like fishing — that don't take too much convincing!)

Last year's trip saw some fairly good action. There were a lot of short throw-backs, but some keeper cod and pollack were taken.

Have a safe and enjoyable week. I'll see you at the Boat Show! I'll be the guy standing next to that 28-foot center console, with that lovesick look on his face and mumbling something about, "I don't know how, but somehow, some way..."

Kent Servis' "Outdoors New England" is a regular feature of The AAN...

Drs. Joseph M. & Katherine S. Schlaffer



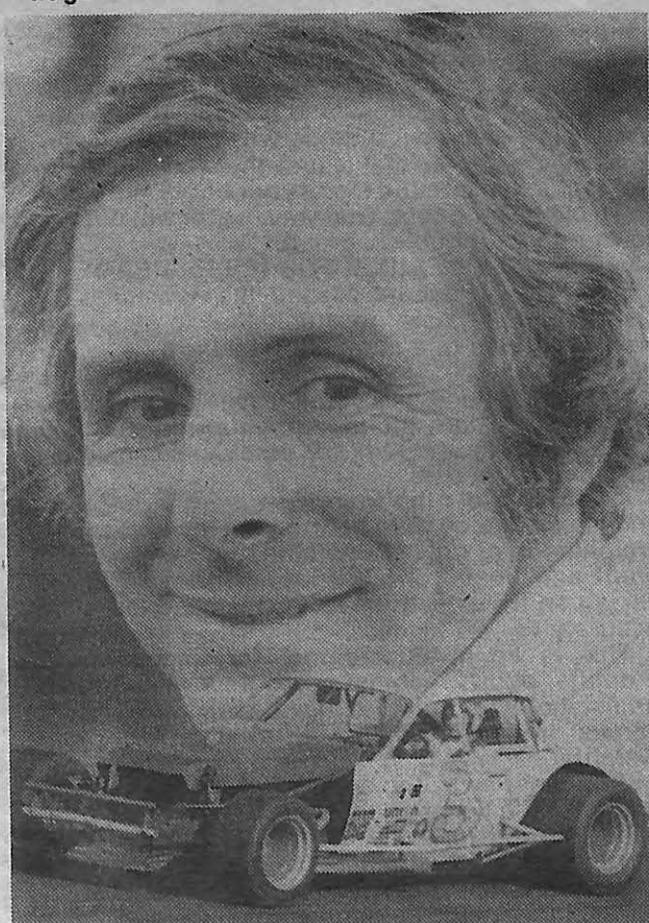
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THE LATE FRANK DESARRO died in a racing accident at Thompson Speedway 20 years ago. He was the winner of many big races.



BILLY GRECO RAN WILD at Riverside Park Speedway as well as other regional speedways during the 1960's and 1970's. Always a very popular driver, Greco won 68 feature races at Riverside.

NEAR To Hold 2nd Annual Hall Of Fame Induction

Eight popular New England racing personalities will be inducted into the New England Antique Racers Hall of Fame on Sunday, January 24th.

The elite eight include living legend drivers Leo Cleary, Melvin "Red" Foote, Billy Greco, Ralph "Hop" Harrington, and supermodified star Eddie West. Long-time fan favorite Fred DeSarro, who died 20 years ago from injuries suffered in a racing accident at Thompson Speedway, will be inducted posthumously.

The two other inductees will be Marvin Rifchin, owner of M&H Tire Co. (a New England-based manufacturer of racing tires), and D. Anthony Venditti, pioneer owner and promoter of Seekonk Speedway, who will be inducted posthumously.

The new inductees will join previously inducted members Gene Bergin, Ron Bouchard, Rene Charland, Ernie Gahan, Pete Hamilton, Ollie Silva, Bill Slater, and Bugsy Stevens.

Most of these Hall of Famers have advised NEAR that they will be attending this year's induction ceremony to welcome the new members. The current Hall of Famers include four members that were inducted posthumously: Richie Evans, Eddie Flemke, Bill Welch, and legendary promoter Harvey Tattersall, Jr.

These inductees were elected from a nomination list of over 160 New England racing personalities by members of the media that cover racing in all six New England states. In addition, the current members of the Hall of Fame also voted.

The induction ceremony will start at 1:00 p.m. at the Carriage House Banquet Hall at Storroroton Tavern on the grounds of The Big E in West Springfield. CBS Sports announcer Mike Joy will be the master of ceremonies. Dick Berggren, editor of *Stock Car Racing Magazine* and also a CBS Sports commentator, will be a part of the program.

Last year's banquet was a sell-out. Tickets for this year's ceremony are \$30 each and can be obtained by calling NEAR President Al Fini at (413) 786-1012.

Here is some background information on the 1999 inductees:

Leo Cleary: He was one of the modified superstars of the 1960's and 1970's, winning many races at tracks such as Norwood, Thompson, Riverside, Albany-Saratoga, Westboro, Plainville, Waterford, and 15 features at Stafford, along with winning a Seekonk track championship.

Fred DeSarro: This Rhode Island native won most of the big races; the first Sizzler in 1972, the 1974 Race of Champions at Trenton, and the 1970



MELVIN 'RED' FOOTE raced in this area in the 1950's and early 1960's. 1962 was a banner year for Foote when he won 12 modified races, including the prestigious Trenton, New Jersey race.

National Championship (driving the Koszela number 15). Coincidentally, the announcement of his induction into the Hall of Fame comes exactly 20 years after his death, which resulted from injuries suffered in a racing accident at Thompson. He was the '74 Thompson Champion as well as the '72 Stafford Champ.

Melvin "Red" Foote: This Meriden, Connecticut native raced in the early 1950's with the United Stock Car Club, winning championships at Waterford and Plainville. He started racing NASCAR in 1960 and became one of the legendary "Eastern Bandits," running and winning nightly from New England to the Carolinas as well as Daytona. In 1962, he won 12 major modified races, including Trenton. At his induction ceremony, he will join fellow "Eastern Bandits" Ed Flemke and Rene Charland in the NEAR Hall of Fame.

Billy Greco: Winning a total of 68 features at Riverside Park (including a couple of 500's as well as two championships), he also won races at Stafford, Plainville, Thompson, Eastern States, and Waterford. He was a regular in the "All-Star" Racing league. Always very popular in the 1960's and 1970's, he was considered the backbone of the United Stock Car Racing Club.

Ralph "Hop" Harrington: This Rhode Island native made contributions to the sport not only as

a driver, but as a car builder and designer. His skill in design and construction resulted in strong finishes at Southern New England ovals such as Lonsdale, Norwood, Kingston, Waterford, Seekonk Thompson, and Westboro (among others).

Marvin Rifchin: Working out of a small store in Watertown, MA (a suburb of Boston), he took on the giants of the tire industry. He started building specialized tires for drag racers, then turned to building tires for the modifieds. His generosity concerning competitors is legendary. He is currently a member of the Drag Racers Hall of Fame.

D. Anthony Venditti: In 1946, he turned his family's poultry farm into a racing facility known as the "cement place." Starting with the midgets in 1946 and later the stock cars in 1949, he was the driving force and active promoter of Seekonk Speedway until his death almost 50 years later.

Eddie West: Representing the northern area of New England, this driver won an amazing 106 features and six championships driving a super-modified in NESMRA competition. "Westie" started driving at Westboro and later moved on to the United Drivers Racing Club (UDRC), and almost immediately began winning races and championships at Hudson and The Pines Speedway. He also won at Lee and Thompson.

Follow Racing At Riverside Speedway all season long in the ADVERTISER NEWS. The 1999 racing season begins in March!!!

Agawam Parks & Rec. Dept.'s Winter Programs

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Agawam Parks and Recreation Department Office is located at Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street (right driveway, rear entrance). Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is 821-0514.

Cancellations and postponements will be announced on the Recreation Department recording, 821-0514. The department reserves the right to set a maximum for each class and to cancel any class due to insufficient registration.

No unregistered person may attend classes at any time. No babysitting is provided for any programs. Children must be of correct age before class begins.

INSURANCE

The Town of Agawam does not carry insurance to cover hospitalization or medical costs for anyone injured while participating in or watching any of our Parks and Recreation programs. Please note — you enter our programs at your own risk.

The Town of Agawam Parks and Recreation Department is not responsible for any personal belongings which are lost, stolen, or damaged while participating in or watching any of our activities.

ADULT PROGRAMS

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: "Fun," recreational program began January 4th and will run for 10 weeks at GRANGER SCHOOL.

Monday, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m.; \$25/10 weeks or \$3/night.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL: Competitive, recreational program began January 7th and will run for eight weeks at the AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL.

Thursday, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.; \$20/eight weeks or \$3/night.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL: Competitive, recreational program began January 7th and will run for eight weeks at the AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL.

Thursday, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.; \$20/eight weeks or \$3/night.

DROP-IN BASKETBALL: Supervised drop-in basketball program for RESIDENTS ONLY at the AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL. Participants must be 18 years or older. Proof of age and residency is required for admittance to the program.

Monday and Wednesday, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.; \$2/night.

Registration for Women's, Men's, and Co-Ed Volleyball was accepted the first night of the program at the gyms. Registration for Drop-In Basketball is not necessary. The drop-in fee is payable to the site supervisor per visit.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

RECREATIONAL SWIM: Public swim will be

held at the AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL POOL through May.

Monday, 7:00 to 8:45 p.m.; \$2 (six years and up), \$1 (under six years).

Disposable diapers or floatation devices are not allowed in the pool. Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

FALCONS' NIGHT: To be announced (watch for detailed flyers in February).

YOUTH PROGRAMS

YOUTH SWIM LESSONS: The six-week swim lesson program will be offered at the AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL POOL on Saturdays beginning January 23rd. Participants must bring their own bathing suit and towel. Water Safety Instructor: Jennifer Cunningham.

11:00 to 11:30 a.m., Parent & Tot (six months to two years, nine months). Limit: 15 pairs.

11:35 to 12:15 p.m., Pre-School (two years, nine months to four years). Limit: 12 students.

12:20 to 1:20 p.m., Levels 1 & 2 (five years and up). Limit: 15 students.

1:25 to 2:25 p.m., Levels 2 though 5 (five years and up). Limit: 15 students.

The fee is \$25, and registration will be accepted at the Recreation Office, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., beginning Monday, January 11th.

BOYS' LACROSSE: Boys in grades five through eight will learn the fundamentals of the game. The team will participate in the Western New England Youth Lacrosse League and has been invited to play in the Annual Paul Bowers Youth Lacrosse Tournament in Somers, CT.

The program will meet Monday through Thurs-

day evening from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Junior High School football field beginning in mid-April and running through early June. The fee is \$45, and participants must provide their own equipment.

The coaches will be Bob Young, Nick St. George, and Kevin Quinn (among others). Registration is now being accepted at the Recreation Office.

For more information, call Bob Young at 786-8995.

GIRLS' LACROSSE: Any girl in grades five through eight who is interested in forming a league is asked to call the Recreation Office at 821-0514. Any adult interested in coaching/assisting is also asked to call.

HIGH SCHOOL DROP-IN BASKETBALL: Supervised drop-in basketball program for Agawam students in grades nine through 12 only at the JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL beginning January 25th.

Participants must show school I.D. card for admittance. Parental permission is needed for participants under 18 years of age. Grant of Permission forms are available at the Recreation Office.

Monday, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.; \$2 per night.

PERRY LANE NURSERY SCHOOL

Open House: To be held at Perry Lane Nursery School on Wednesday, January 27th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. (Snow date: Friday, January 29th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.)

Registration: To be held at the Recreation Office on Wednesday, February 3rd, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. (Snow date: Thursday, February 4th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.)

* * *

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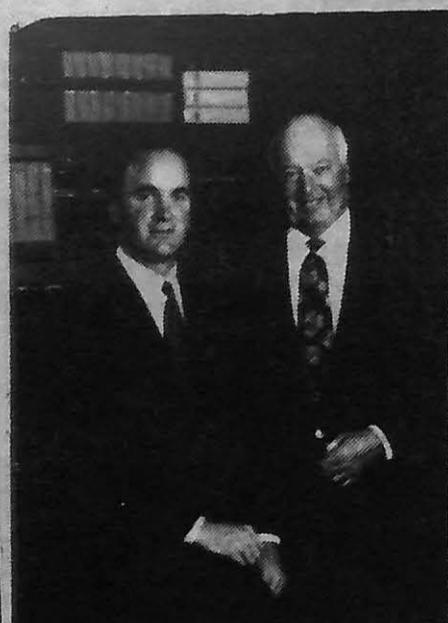
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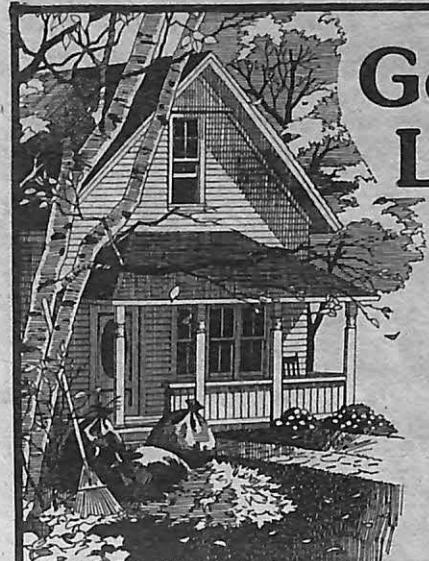
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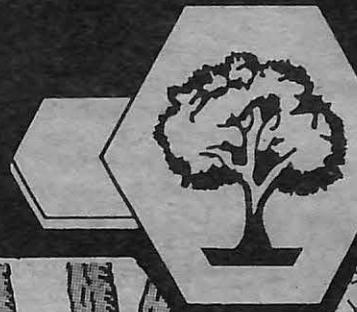
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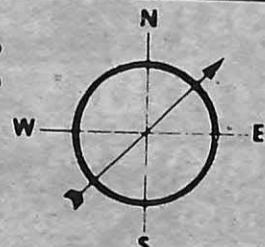
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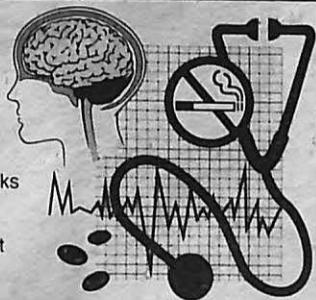
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